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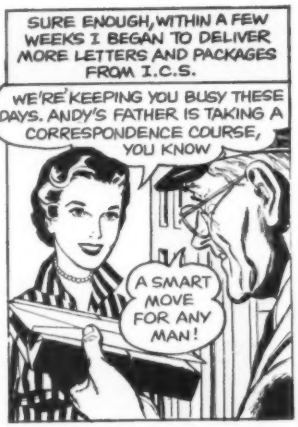

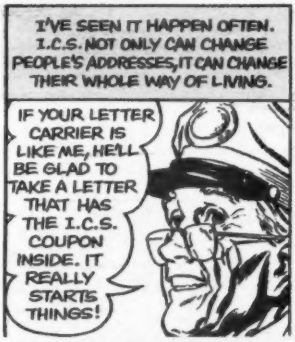

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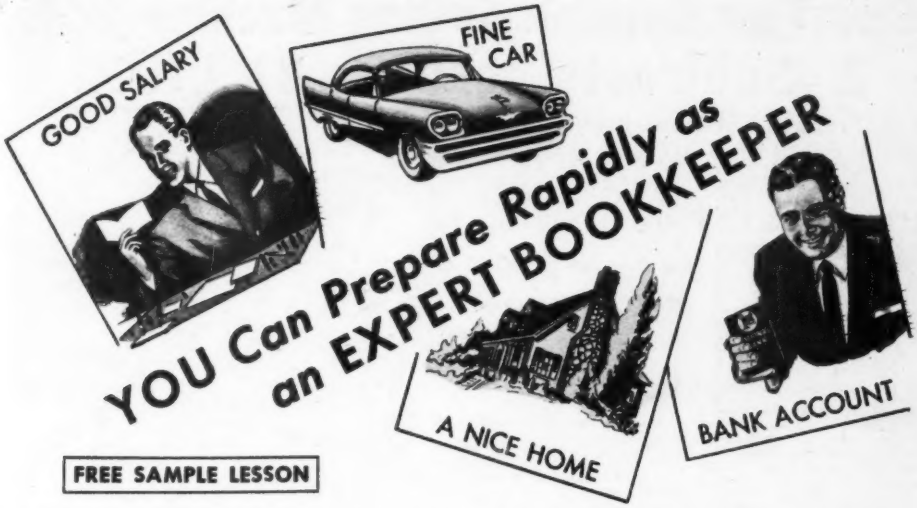

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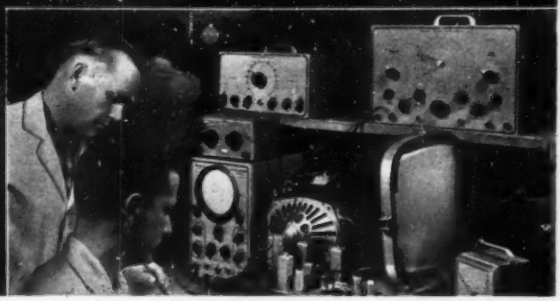

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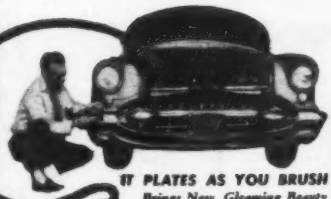

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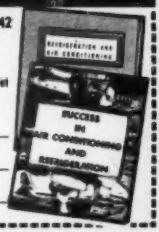

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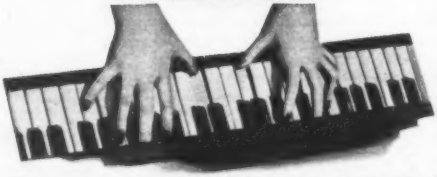

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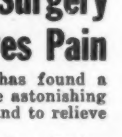

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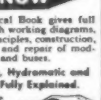

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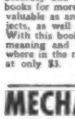

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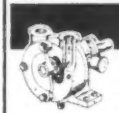

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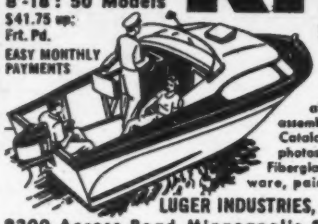

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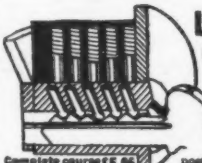

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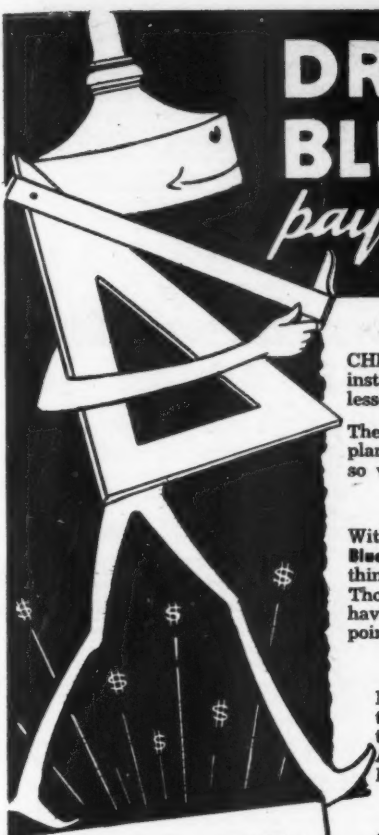

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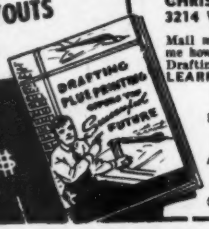

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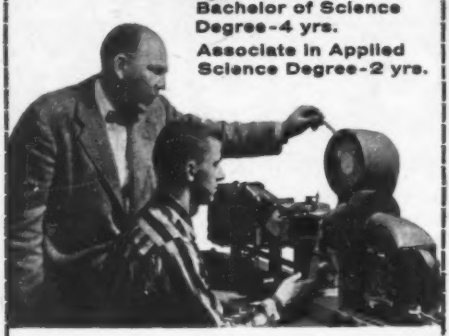

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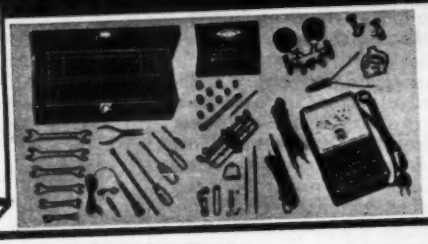

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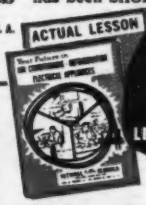

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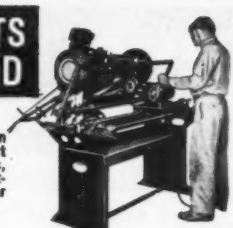

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Invention Clinic

Joseph H. Kraus

In this column each month Mr. Kraus will answer as many letters as space permits on those subjects he feels to be of widest general interest. Time does not allow him to reply to any letters except those printed here. Address your questions to the Invention Clinic, *Mechanix Illustrated*, 67 West 44 St., New York 36, N. Y.

Sectional Metal Stairs

E. J. Armstrong of Winnipeg, Manitoba, sends diagrams and details of a pending patent on sectional stairs, which may be erected or dismantled and steps added or removed, using tools found in any home workshop. Should he go all the way or give it up? Would certain described changes make the present patent useless?

This appears to be an excellent design. Properly constructed, and promoted at a price competitive with other metal stairs this should make a worthwhile product. Not having studied your claims I cannot state that your proposed changes will make your patent useless. However, I suspect that these are well within the claims you may win. You might provide risers, rails and rail mountings, as optional. Had these stairs been available a couple of months ago, I would have purchased a set.

Worm Scissors

Roy Shifrin of the Bronx, N. Y., has a patent pending on a worm scissors which not only cut the worm but hold it while the hook is being manipulated into the bait. An added feature is a hook dislodger. How can he interest a manufacturer?

This would be a boon to some fishermen, and especially to the fair sex. But many a husky worm changes to a shoestring, only to reshape itself several times over while being handled. Then, too, there are several kinds of worms with body walls of different thicknesses. Have you made allowances for them? You should have several models made, mark hook sizes on the taper, and prepare to demonstrate. Many a scissors or sporting goods manufacturer should bid on this. If this tool works, you can enter my order for one in non-rusting metal.

Chum And Pot For Fishing

Walter M. Kennedy of Westmont, N. J., sends a print of his patent-pending drawings for an expendable chum pot ready for use when purchased. Should he get in touch with a can manufacturer or a packer? What is our opinion? What is address of The American Can Company?

If you can sell a pound of chum in a pot for not much more than the cost of chum in standard frozen packs, you stand a good chance for a market. No can manufacturer is interested in what you put into the cans. His business is to make and sell cans.

You have needlessly complicated the construction of the container. The top could be made the same as the bottom. The sides could be made of wire lath, hardware cloth, or cord netting, and perhaps save a couple of pennies, per pack. A plastic envelope might economically substitute for the cardboard wrapping.

[*Continued on page* 26]

INVENTOR'S TIP OF THE MONTH

Here is a gadget that would enhance TV viewing and make a million: something to turn down the volume of commercials automatically. An automatic device to eliminate all commercials completely would be worth even more, but might kill the goose that lays the golden eggs if attached to too many sets. Falling short of these ambitious ideas, but still loaded with possibilities, would be a wireless volume control that could be worked from any part of the room by the viewer.

INVENTORS

If you believe that you have an invention, you should find out how to protect it. The first step is to have a search made of the prior pertinent U. S. patents. If a report on this search indicates that the invention appears patentable you can apply for a patent, and the specifications and claims should be prepared.

The firm of McMorrow, Berman & Davidson, with offices in Washington, D. C., is qualified to take the necessary steps for you. We can make a preliminary search on your invention, advise you whether we think it can be patented, and prepare your application for patent.

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Invention Clinic

[*Continued from page 24*]

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Attachment Reducing Machine

Mrs. C. H., of Portland, Pa., has designed an attachment to convert a washing machine to a reducing machine. Her attorney states that her device is simpler than two others unearthed during a search. Does this have any merit?

It depends on what you mean by merit. As the person using this device is not performing heavy physical exercise and merely remains in position while the machine does the shaking, vibrating or what have you, there will be no direct measurable reduction in weight. However, for some strange reason, reducing machines sell. Properly promoted, yours might sell too. •

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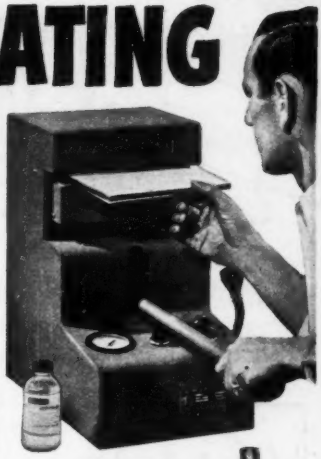

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● *UFO's Again*

Throughout the past 11 years many myths about "flying saucers" have accumulated in the public's mind. Why? Beginning in 1947 the government and the newswire services ridiculed "saucers," then pursued them actively and ended by purposely clouding the issue.

The only conclusion I can reach is that UFO reports are being suppressed by high government officials. Nothing else can explain the irritating fact that, although people are constantly sighting these saucers, the press remains strangely silent and the Air Force continues to try and convince the American people that they are really having hallucinations.

By the way, I wonder how many people have noticed the incongruity of an Air Force order to "shoot to kill" an hallucination?

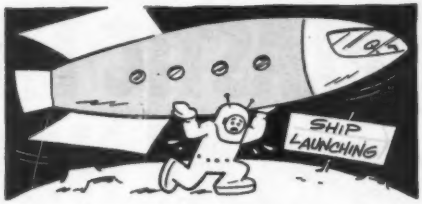
John L. Zeller
Cuyahoga Falls, Ohio

You're absolutely right, John. As a matter of fact, Venusians took over this office two years ago.

If the USAF says there are no saucers, OK —but I wish they'd stop scaring my cows as their milk production is down.

M.M.G.
Brattleboro, Vt.

● *Milestone*



My brother and I figured out today how much weight a man could carry on the moon. We assumed the man's weight to be 200 pounds on earth and that he can carry 100 pounds. He is now supporting a total of 300 pounds. If gravity on the moon is one-fifth of earth's gravity, he can support a total load equivalent to 1,500 pounds on earth.

The man himself weighs only 40 pounds on the moon, so he is capable of handling a payload of 1,460 pounds.

What are your comments?

F. Kuyt
Thetford Mines, Que.

Arithmetic seems OK. What really impresses us is your originality. Most people only talk about how high a guy can jump on the moon, how easy it will be to live there. You're the first men to figure how to get pooped on the moon.

● *Delicate Qu-st-n*

Only two questions came to mind as I read about the "Grasshopper Infantry" (Sept. MI).

First, how does a GI stop himself after a 100-yard leap at 35 mph without breaking a leg?

And last, is the Army going to issue larger canteens to the men to put out their own rear ---s?

Jim Norris
St. Petersburg, Fla.

Two questions, two answers: First, Commando Training, sir. Second, asbestos pads in the seats of their p--ts.

[*Continued on page* 30]

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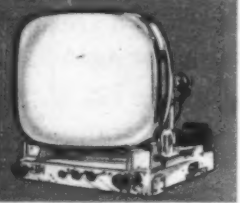

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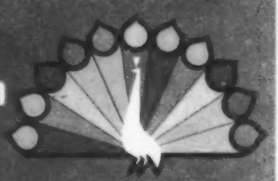

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Dear Editor

[*Continued from page* 28]

● *Happy Wagon Camper*

J. Robert Connor's article in the August MI on Station Wagon Camping was the grease on the skid that sent us into the "camping fever" in no "now and then" way. We will never take a vacation in any other way. The people you meet, the places you can go and the slight cost have entirely won us over.

As every tyro must find on the initial trip, there are bugs to be eliminated. Ours was a defective stove that took an hour and a half to get water warm enough to wash up the dishes and our faces. From then on it was either good neighbors lending their stoves, open fires or starting meals two or three hours ahead of time. When we returned the dealer took it back and promised to order us a Coleman white gas stove—the tyros learned.

Richard H. Cabell
Clarkston, Ga.

● *January MI Mystery*

When Tom and Betty applied for their marriage license the first thing they were asked was their ages. With a natural reluctance to reveal so important a secret Betty said that they were both in their twenties and wasn't that close enough? The clerk insisted on more specific information, however, so Tom added that they both had the same birthday and that he was four times as old as Betty was when he was three times as old as Betty was when he was twice as old as Betty was. At this the clerk fainted and the young people snatched up the license, hurried to the preacher's and lived happily ever after. When the clerk came to and realized that he would have to complete his records some way or other he began to do a little figuring and before long had found out how old the two were. Can you tell too? (From 101 Puzzles in Thought and Logic by C. R. Wylie, Jr., $1.00, Dover Publications, New York.)

● *November Mystery Solved*

With how few bearers can an explorer make a six-day march across an absolutely barren desert if he and the available bearers can each carry only enough food and water to last one man four days?

Answer: With two bearers.

T. R. S.
Montreal, Que. •

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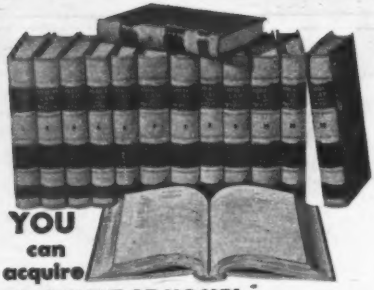

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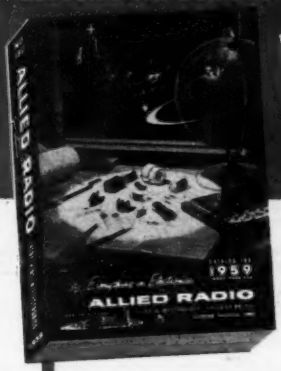

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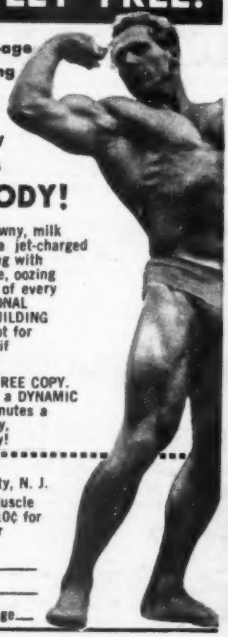

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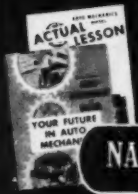

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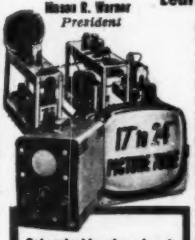

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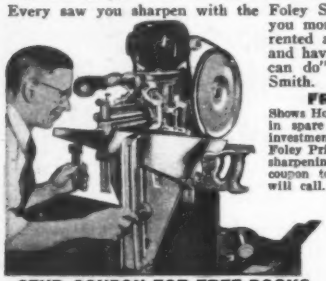

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The Home Study School offers correspondence courses covering the entire field of Radio, Television and Electronics. The courses include Electronic Fundamentals, for the beginner with no previous background in Radio; TV Servicing, for the advanced radio student; Color Television, for the television technician; and a new course Electronics For Automation which is the first of two courses in the field of Industrial Electronics.

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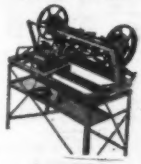

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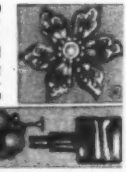

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AMAZING, NEW Telescope. Free Circular. Telescope Shop, 3562 Third, Detroit 1, Mich.

• • • BODY BUILDING—ATHLETIC EQUIPMENT

KARATE KUNG-FU—Deadliest Oriental Defense—Manual. Home training develops power that can split planks, masonry bare-handed. $3.98. J. Yim Lee, 584 Valle Vista Ave., Oakland 10, Calif.

FREE MUSCLE building information. Bodytone, Box 638-C, North Miami, Fla.

MI Classified Advertisements

• • • PLANTS, SHRUBS & TREES

RAISE YOUR Shrubs, trees from seed. Free Planting guide, price list. Woodlot Seed Co., Norway 23, Mich.

• • • REAL ESTATE, FARM LANDS

$10 DOWN, $10 MONTHLY buys your homesite in Central Florida's finest retirement and vacation community in the high ridge section near Sebring. On 84 square mile Highlands Lake. Free community parks and beaches. Get Free color brochures, house plans; learn how we help you plan, finance, build your low cost, tax-exempt home. Write Florida Realty Bureau, Inc., Dept. E1, Lake Placid, Fla.

FLORIDA—NICE homesites, $345 at $10 monthly. Folder Free. Winston Vernor, DeLand, Fla.

CANADIAN TAX Lands. Mining, Hunting, Fishing, and lake front sites. Invest in Canada's Minerals and Forests. Most properties less than $1 per acre. Monthly lists only $1. Mineral Club of Canada, S. W., Box 187, Windsor, Ontario.

ALASKA 49TH STATE, White, Real Estate Broker, Business Opportunities, Correspondence invited. Box 702, Juneau, Alaska.

• • • HORSE TRAINING

"HOW TO Train Horses"—A book everyone who likes horses or ponies should have. Free. No obligation. Simply address Beery School of Horsemanship, Dept. 1151, Pleasant Hill, Ohio.

• • • RABBITS—HAMSTERS

RAISE RABBITS on $500 month plan. Plenty markets. Free details. White's Rabbitry, Delaware, Ohio.

• • • ANIMAL BREEDING

RAISE MINK: Free booklet, pen plans, inside "secrets," feed, care. Mink are money makers. Investigate today. Lawrence Molgard, Brigham City 15, Utah.

• • • FARM EQUIPMENT

SENSATIONAL GARDEN Tractor. Hoes between plants and rows, including strawberries. Eliminates hand hoeing. Standard in size, yet entirely different. Patent 2742840. Also tills. Fantastic offer to first few inquiries. Auto Hoe, DePere 72, Wisc.

• • • PERSONAL

BORROW $50 TO $600 By Mail. Quick, Easy, Private. No Co-Signers. Repay in 24 small monthly payments. For the amount you want write today to Dial Finance Co., 410 Kilpatrick Bldg., Dept. A-1, Omaha 2, Nebr.

BORROW BY Mail. $100-$600. Anywhere. Air Mail Service. Postal Finance, 200 Keeline Building, Dept. 918A, Omaha 2, Nebr.

"YOU CAN Find Out!" Confidential information developed, any matter, person, anywhere. Officially licensed. Established 1922. Equitable Service Bureau, 15 Maiden Lane, New York.

GAIN SELF Confidence, Memory Power, Magnetic Personality by recordings. Invisible Psychologist, Box 24-MM, Olympia, Wash.

ARABIAN DISTANT instant hypnotism, complete, $. BM/HGYL, London, W.C.1., England.

SAVE 50% ON Vitamins. New, free catalogue lists all brands, formulas, prices. Compare and save. State vitamins now using. Vitamin Specialties, Box 4435-C, Philadelphia 40, Penna.

LEGAL FORM for making a will, $1.00. Curtiss Folio Publications, 1412 Great Northern Bldg., Chicago 4, Ill.

"RULE OTHERS with thoughts." (Telepathy.) Details—stamp. Clarion, 846-S9 Sunnyside, Chicago 40.

MEXICAN LAW. Attorney Ceniceros, Apto 79.—C. Juárez, Chih., Méx.

• • • JEWELRY

FREE CATALOG. Costume jewelry parts. Supplies. Reasonable prices. Fast service. Guaranteed quality. Unique merchandise. Folsom's, Box 52, Medford 55, Mass.

COSTUME JEWELRY settings, rhinestones, pearls. Rhinestone earring kit and catalog 50¢. Catalog 10¢. Hom-Art, MI Box 4035, Hammond, Ind.

COSTUME JEWELRY Supplies, Settings, Rhinestone, etc. 88 page illustrated catalog. 25¢. Milady, Box 1328, G.P.O., N.Y.C.

• • • REMAIL SERVICE

ALASKA 49TH STATE, Soon. Re-Mails, 25¢, Alaska Statehood Stamp, First issue out January. White, Box 702, Juneau, Alaska.

CONFIDENTIAL REMAILS 25¢. $3.00 month. Marina, 1740 So. 91 St., Seattle 8, Wash.

FLORIDA REMAILS 25¢. Receiving-forwarding $3.00 month. Grimm, Box 1781, Tampa, Fla.

JERRY LOVE, 1419 E. 83 Street, Los Angeles 1, Calif., letters remailed 25¢ a letter.

SECRET MAIL Address. $3 Month. Hedgpeth, Box 830, Alhambra 17, Calif.

• • • MISCELLANEOUS

"COBRA, DEFENSIVE street-fighting tricks." Designed to help peaceful adults. $2. Gaucho, 846-S9 Sunnyside, Chicago 40.

$1.00 BRINGS BEAUTIFUL surprise Xmas specials. Surprise, Box 201, Buffalo 12, N. Y.

HANDWRITING ANALYSIS. Traits. Potentials. $1.00. Send penned letter about yourself. LB, 24311 Charles, Mt. Clemens, Mich.

FREE WHOLESALE Catalogs! 250,000 Products . . . Tremendous Discounts. Econ-O-Mart, Whippany 8, N. J.

• • • MINERALS, PRECIOUS STONES

FIND HIDDEN Treasures in your own backyard . . . spare time—weekends. Get Free information about sources, bargains, vital data from the jewelry industry's biggest suppliers. Write for Free Booklet: Grieger's, 1633 E. Walnut, Pasadena 94, Calif.

CUT GEMS, make jewelry. Learn easily for profit or fun. Beautiful 100 page magazine tells how; where to get supplies, fascinating! Sample 25¢ or request Free literature. Lapidary Journal, Box Mar 6, Calif.

MINERAL MAP of Canada. Showing complete mining areas of Gold, Uranium, Silver, Copper, etc. Over 1,000,000 sq. miles. Excellent for exploration and reference. Only $1 to Mineral Club of Canada, S. W., Box 187, Windsor, Ontario.

• • • OLD GOLD WANTED

HIGHEST CASH For Old Gold, Broken Jewelry. Gold Teeth, Watches, Diamonds, Silverware, Spectacles, Platinum, Mercury. Free information. Rose Refinery, Hayworth Bldg., Chicago 2.

GOLD, SILVER platinum, diamonds, scrap jewelry, spectacles, watches wanted. Highest prices, free information. Wilmot's, 1067 Bridge St., Grand Rapids 4, Mich.

• • • GIFTS TO GIVE

IMPORTED CAPESKIN travel slippers with matching leather travel case. Case will hold all his toiletries. Slippers are extra fine quality, butter-soft and light as a feather. Hose size (10-10½) (11-11½) (12-13) London tan. Handsomely gift boxed. Guaranteed to delight the most discriminating man just.....$10.95 Cash, check or m.o. The Aunt Sally Co., Dept. MI-A, 252 Rathbun St., Woonsocket 1, R. I.

• • • WATCHES, WATCHMAKING, CLOCKS

WATCHMAKERS JOURNAL contains instructions on watch repairing. Sample copy 25¢. Dean Co., Peninsula Sta., Daytona Beach, Fla.

USED AND new watches $2 up. Free List. Southern Watches, 5-M South Wabash, Chicago 3, Ill.

WATCH AND clock repairing books. Free catalog. North American, 2320-CA Milwaukee, Chicago 47, Ill.

"MAIL ORDER BUSINESS"

Big 8½ x 11" monthly publication, up to 36 pages jammed with illustrated authoritative articles, features on the mail order business. Let 10 Mail Order authorities show you the way to Mail Order success! 2 back issues $1.00. 5 months subscription $2.00. 1 year sub. $6.00. Money back if not pleased.

MAIL ORDER BUSINESS, Box 591-EK, Lynn, Mass.

NEW, NATURAL LIGHTWEIGHT
DENTAL PLATE

MADE FROM YOUR OLD ONE—New, Professional Method gives you natural-looking, perfect-fitting plastic plate—upper, lower or partial—from your old cracked or loose plate *without an impression*. CLINICAL method means fast service, huge savings. Try new plate full 30 days at our risk. New plates sent you Air Mail same day.

New Priced Low As **$15.95**

SEND NO MONEY—just your name and address for full particulars FREE. No cost. No obligation. Act now.

CLINICAL DENTAL LAB., 335 W. Madison St., Dept. T-101, Chicago 6, Ill.

A number of one-man mail order enterprises are paying their owners an income of $40,000 to $50,000.

SPECIAL OPPORTUNITIES

Mail order is big business. Annual catalog sales volume of Sears, Roebuck and Co. is over 700 million dollars!

HOW TO START

Your Own Mail Order Business

You can make a fortune by mail. New firms will set you up in a fabulous mail order business of your own! They'll make up your catalogs, prepare your advertising, supply mailing lists and even ship your products for you!

By John Winkler

WHEN Arthur Johnson decided to earn some extra cash during his spare time he chose the mail order business because it could be run right from his own home. He reasoned that it was one of the few fields still open in which you could start your own business with a minimum of capital. In fact, his total investment was less than $100.00.

(Advertisement)

Witness the success of Arthur Johnson. He obtained a franchise from Mail Order Associates and within three months the profits started pouring in.

What began as a spare time job mushroomed into a profitable full-time business.

How successful was Johnson? Well, he drives a Cadillac convertible, owns a home in Nevada and a summer place in Florida, with a Chris-Craft cruiser to boot!

No, Johnson didn't find Uranium or answer the $64,000 question. He simply cashed in on the fabulous mail order business—with the help of one of the new mail order organizations which back enterprising new comers to the mail order business.

Like so many other beginners in this field, Johnson was plagued with the problem of finding the 'ideal' mail order product. One that would have a large market, offer a good profit margin, bring repeat sales, and one which could be easily shipped by mail. After reading several books and courses on the subject, it seemed impossible. In order to obtain wholesale prices from manufacturers he had to purchase large quantities, which meant all his capital would be spent in inventory. The additional cost of sales letters and advertising and the risk of picking a poor mail order product and being stuck with all that merchandise made it even more obvious he'd have little chance of success.

Then he heard about Mail Order Associates of Maywood, New Jersey—an organization set up to aid the small mail order operator.

He wrote to M.O.A. for full information, sent in his application for a franchise and within three months the profits started pouring in.

Johnson attributes his success to the large selection of novel and unusual mail order products carried by M.O.A.

Mail Order Associates is one of the few new pioneers in the fabulous mail order business. One of the first organizations formed to put the small mail order operator in business—big business, they fill a definite need for the beginner with little capital. Here's what they offer you:

(1) Complete, ready-to-mail catalogs printed with your name and address . . . in any quantity you wish. Catalogs, sales letters or self mailers may be based on any of the following typical categories:

BABY GIFTS AND NOVELTIES
VITAMINS
INSTRUCTION BOOKLETS AND COURSES
COSMETICS

You select your own market.

(2) Profits range from 50% to 150% on most items. For example, you may sell a $20.00 mail order course and make $10.00 on each sale. Or you sell two appliances at a discount, give one away free and still make a 50% overall profit!

(3) Everything is drop-shipped for you. You have no merchandise to carry—no capital tied up in inventory. All merchandise is stocked and shipped for you by Mail Order Associates or the manufacturer. You forward orders and your own shipping labels to M.O.A. and all merchandise is sent direct to your customer—using YOUR OWN LABEL.

(4) Up to date mailing lists are made available to you. Lists of proven mail order buyers are compiled for the market you select. Records are kept so that no two distributors use the same names. All names are supplied on gummed labels—all you do is apply them to your catalogs.

(5) A consultation service is provided to answer any questions you may have. In addition, you're supplied with a list of leading national magazines that provide free editorial write-ups. You're even given form letters to use to obtain free advertising of your products from these magazines.

(6) Your choice of at least four new mail order programs during the year. One may be a catalog of baby items, another on household gadgets, etc. You may select one or as many as you can handle.

Here's how they operate: Unlike the individual mail order dealer who looks for the ideal product, M.O.A. searches the market first! After making surveys and tests to determine a profitable mail order market, they select the products to suit the market. For example, the market of selling baby items to new mothers is a big one. Over four million babies are born in the U. S. each year. This is the first step in selecting a mass market for their franchised dealers. Then comes the selection of products to suit this market. They contact every manufacturer of products sold to new mothers. From thousands of items offered by various companies, only those suit-

able for mail order are selected for preliminary tests. The final survey is made for new novelties and products not yet manufactured! If they feel certain ideas for new products have merit, they'll manufacture the items on a royalty basis and produce them for their dealers exclusively!

From this preliminary selection of new mail order products suited to this particular market, they make actual tests to see which items will sell and produce the greatest profit

The thrill of receiving money in your morning mail is one you'll never tire of.

for their franchised dealers. Having finally selected the best products they begin layout and artwork on a new mail order catalog for their dealers. The final catalog may consist of a small 6 x 9 brochure, a large 8½ x 11 illustrated booklet or even a small one page self-mailer, depending upon the market and selection of products. Sales letters are prepared by experienced copy writers, and the complete job—layout, copy and printing is done by experts to produce professional results.

By purchasing merchandise in large quantities and running catalogs on large presses, they are able to offer their dealers complete backing at a fraction of the cost the individual would have to pay for the same job.

The final step is to supply the franchised dealers with names of prospective customers! In this particular example, they would make available the names and addresses of over 7000 new mothers every day!

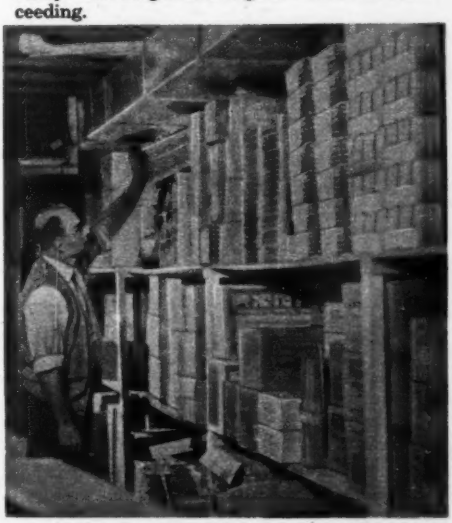
Although many mail order firms use magazines and newspapers to advertise single items, the larger established firms have proven that direct mailings to prospective customers and previous mail order buyers is far more profitable.

A notice is then sent to all franchise holders explaining in detail the complete sales program for the particular market covered. The dealers then have the option to accept the offer or wait for a complete new sales program set up for a new market. At least four complete new sales programs are prepared by Mail Order Associates each year.

If the dealer decides to go ahead he may begin ordering catalogs (his personal name or business name is printed on all sales literature), and mailing them to his lists of prospective customers. As he receives orders for merchandise he simply forwards the orders together with addressed shipping labels to M.O.A. and they fill the orders and mail direct to his customers with the dealer's shipping label attached to each parcel. In some cases M.O.A. prepares a catalog of merchandise which manufacturers have agreed to drop-ship for the dealer. Mail Order Associates simply turns over this list of firms to the dealer and he works directly with the manufacturer. The customer pays the dealer the retail price of each item in the catalog. The dealer in turn pays M.O.A. or the manufacturer only the wholesale price of each item and pockets the difference—which really adds up when you mail a few hundred catalogs a week.

The operation of Mail Order Associates is based on a small margin or profit, but tremendous volume, which spells BIG PROFITS FOR ITS FRANCHISED DEALERS.

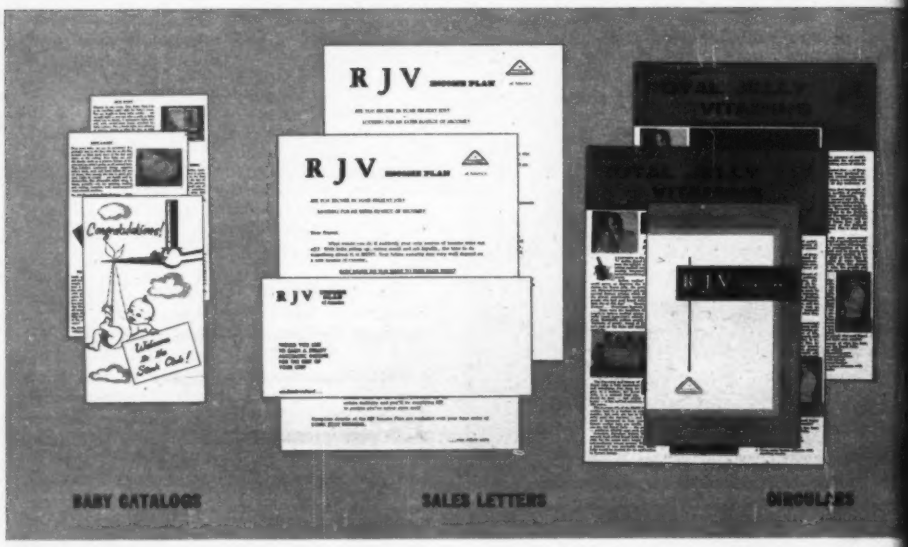
Mail Order, however, just as any other business, does involve a certain amount of risk. But the initial investment required is relatively small ($80-$100) compared to other businesses. By eliminating the initial cost of stocking merchandise and preparing expensive catalogs, M.O.A. dealers can keep their initial investment to a bare minimum. On the other hand, few other occupations offer such exceptional income potential as a small specialized Mail Order business. The important thing to remember is that in Mail Order like everything else, the person who works hard and is not easily discouraged has a good chance of succeeding.



Big firms will carry all stock for you. They ship orders direct to your customers using your own shipping labels.

(Advertisement)

Your OWN Catalogs of Top Mail Order Items!



Mail Order Associates will prepare your catalogs, write your sales letters, supply mailing lists and even ship merchandise for you, using your own shipping labels!

We don't say you'll be a mail order millionaire or another Sears & Roebuck, but if you're looking for a business of your own with a potential income of $50,000 per year the answer is mail order.

MAIL ORDER ASSOCIATES

Gilbert Turk, founder of Mail Order Associates, is certainly well qualified to head such an organization. Formerly president of two large mail order companies, his articles on selling by mail have appeared in national magazines throughout the country. He has sold everything from build-it-yourself plans to name brand appliances. When the paint-by-numbers fad was sweeping the country, he invented a three dimensional paint set which sold like wildfire. With Turk, Mail Order is almost an obsession. He thinks, talks and lives it.

Firmly convinced that no other business offers the tremendous opportunities of mail order he is an outspoken advocate of the man or woman who wants to start in business for himself. As Turk puts it, "By all means, start your own business and start TODAY! If you want security, independence and a chance to hit the jackpot, make your choice Mail Order. There's nothing like it. Absolutely nothing!"

FOR FREE DETAILS

Mail coupon below today

Mr. Gilbert Turk, Pres.
MAIL ORDER ASSOCIATES
Dept. M-85, 130 W. Pleasant Ave., Maywood 85, N. J.

Dear Mr. Turk:
The co-operative dealer franchise plan with Mail Order Associates sounds exactly like the kind of lifetime business of my own I want to establish. Please send me complete FREE details on how I can get my own franchised dealership.

NAME .....

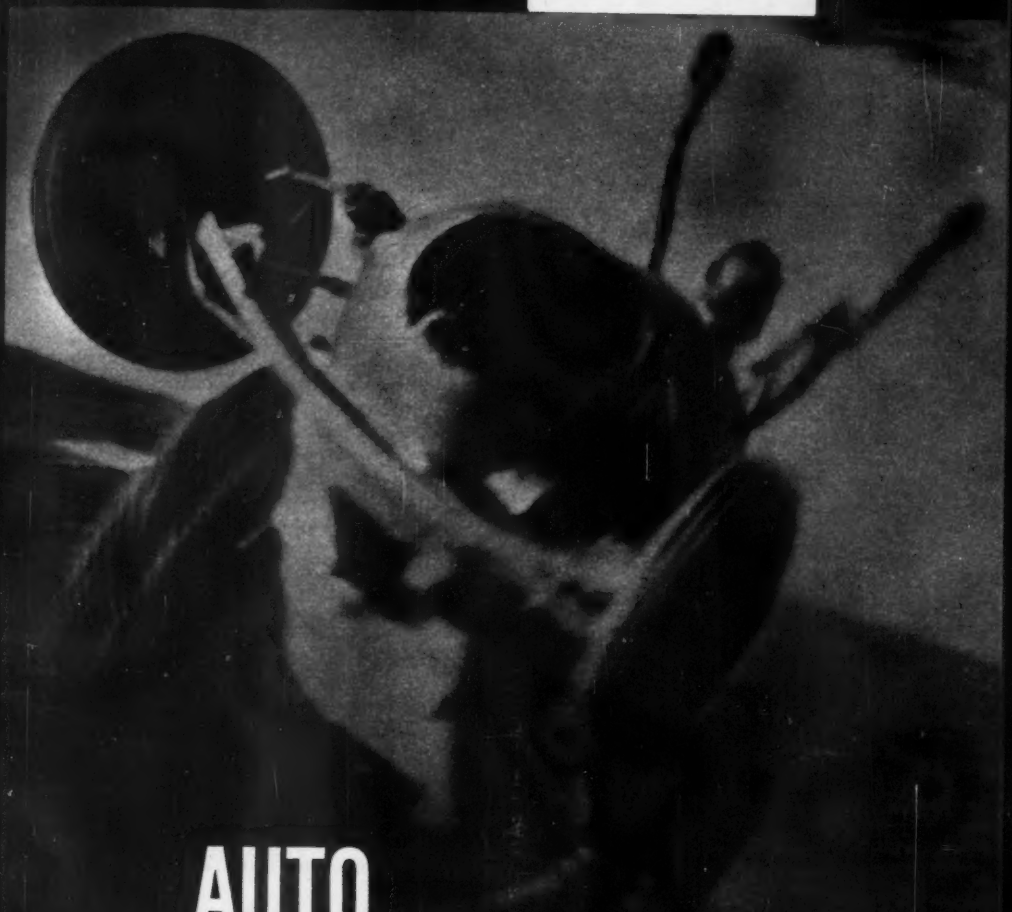
ADDRESS .....

CITY ..... ZONE ..... STATE .....

January February • March • April
May • June • July • August
September • October • November • December

Mechanix Illustrated

1959



AUTO RACING MUST BE OUTLAWED!

. . . SAYS OREGON'S SENATOR NEUBERGER

TURN PAGE

AUTO RACING MUST BE OUTLAWED!

BY SENATOR RICHARD L. NEUBERGER

with

Lester David

IT happened recently in my home State of Oregon: A car driven by a young automobile race driver hurtled out of control at Portland Speedway and crashed into a retaining wall. Don Porter, father of four small children and himself only 31, died violently.

Six weeks earlier at the Indianapolis Speedway, a car went out of control and immediately caused a dozen others to pile up. Headlong into the traffic jam rushed Pat O'Connor of Indiana. Unable to stop, he plowed into the rear of a car and flipped over. Young O'Connor's car burst into flames and he perished in the wreckage.

And two days after this, a Porsche-Carrera driven by Hodge Bruch turned over three times during a race at Bridgehampton, N. Y. Bruch, father of three, died on the way to a hospital.

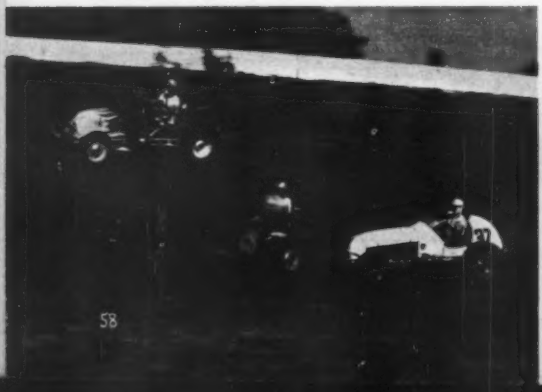
Some people call this sport. I call it wanton, tragically unnecessary bloodshed. Some call it healthy, exhilarating competition. I call it shameful and uncivilized.

The three deaths I have described are only the latest in a long, macabre list which stretches back over the years almost to the very start of automobile racing. Every step of the way, car racing has been accompanied by massacre. Tracks all over the country have counted—are still counting!—their dead. I believe the time has come for the United States to become a civilized nation and to stop this carnage which has persisted too long. I believe full study should be given to outlawing automobile racing, once and for all, by legislation effective in all 49 states.

There are a number of reasons why I am convinced this must be done.

In the first place, the exhibitions are degrading to the human spirit. I do not pose as a psychologist, but is there any serious doubt that the majority of persons who throng to these proceedings are there because of the extreme hazard to the drivers? For every spectator who really understands and loves automobiles, there are a hundred who come be-

DRIVER DIED in this spectacular crash (see cover) at the Dayton, Ohio Speedway. After



LE MANS CRASH left 82 dead, 78 injured as spectators were crushed or burned to death by racing car hurtling off road.

cause men are in constant peril of being killed or mangled.

And this, to me, is pathetic. It is a lowering of the essential dignity of man. It approaches dangerously close to the raw crowd lust of the Roman "circuses" where the populace jammed the arenas to watch gladiators battle to the death.

We toss critical barbs at the Spaniards because of their bull-fighting. We roll our eyes heavenward and shudder at the goriness of this national sport. And yet how many bull fights are as bloody as the race not long ago in San Diego, Calif., where a woman driver died hideously and newspaper photographers took pictures of her hand protruding agonizingly from beneath her over-turned racing car

I have heard and read many criticisms of some films, TV programs and books because they expose our children to violence. Yet we permit our youngsters to visit automobile race tracks. Is not the impact of a supposedly violent television show upon an impressionable young mind comparatively mild compared with the effect of a roaring, rendering crash in which racing drivers are slaughtered or maimed?

My second reason for urging abolition of automobile racing deals with the danger to the lives of the participants.

Does it make any sense to permit continuation of a sporting activity when the death of a driver or two in a major race is considered normal? In a recent discussion of the subject in Harper's Magazine, Prof. Laurence Lafore of Swarthmore and Robert W. Lafore quoted a [*Continued on page* 156]

McCAHILL REPLIES

Don't miss Tom McCahill's reply to this provocative article. Tom will defend auto racing in a no-punches-pulled answer in the February issue.

hitting another car, No. 37 driven by Jim Rigsby plunged 50 ft. over the track rail.

MECHANIX ILLUSTRATED
BRIGHT IDEA AWARD

HOME UTILITY CART

WIN $50

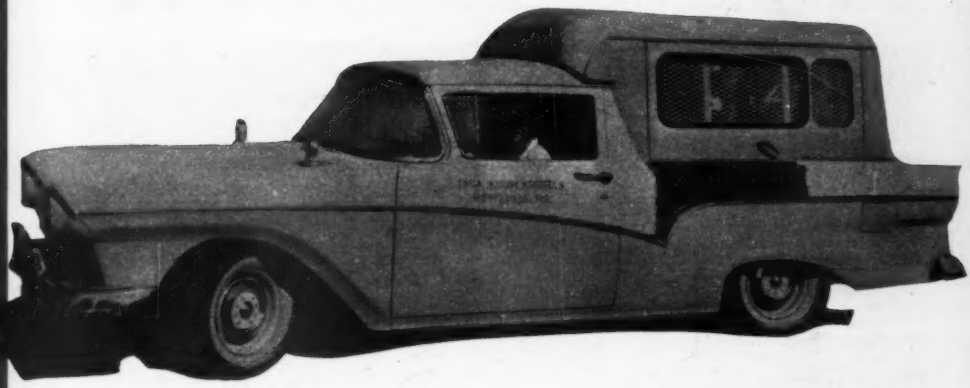
MI will award $50 each month to the first person who tells us of a new and useful gadget that is patented and in production. Manufacturers are also eligible for this award. Pictures and a description should be sent to Bright Ideas Editor, Mechanix Illustrated, 67 West 44th Street, New York 36, N. Y.

YOU'LL find many uses around the house for the Home Utility Cart. It has a plated tubular steel frame, a lightweight, bright red polyethelene basket and semi-pneumatic tires. Mom can carry laundry or soak dirty dishes in it. Dad can ice his beer at parties or use it to hold grass clippings. It retails for about $14.95. •

TUB can be used as a laundry basket. lifts out. It is made by Kol, Inc., St. Paul, Minn.

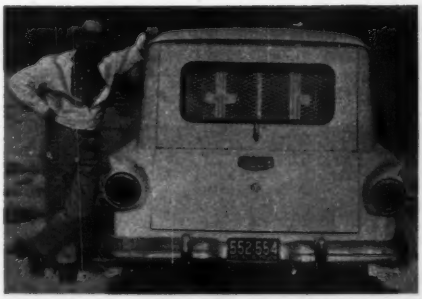
LIQUID refreshments can be iced in tub. It can also be used by Dad for lawn, garden.

MOBILE doghouse provides adequate ventilation via louvers in the roof which also direct rain water down to the road by means of drain tubes.



Dog Wagon DeLuxe

DOWN Missouri way professional handler Bill Wunderlich of Wentzville hauls his valuable field trial dogs in a Ford Ranchero, "customized" to house seven dogs, each one with a private, ventilated kennel carpeted with cedar shavings. John Mueller of St. Louis designed the $1,100 custom coachwork which weighs only 500 lbs. •



WUNDERLICH WAGON. Coachwork, addition of leaf to each of rear springs did job.

RIBBED rubber inlay on rear fenders protects paint, gives dogs good jump grip.

DOGGY DRAGGER has enough storage under kennels to tote a gross of dog biscuits.

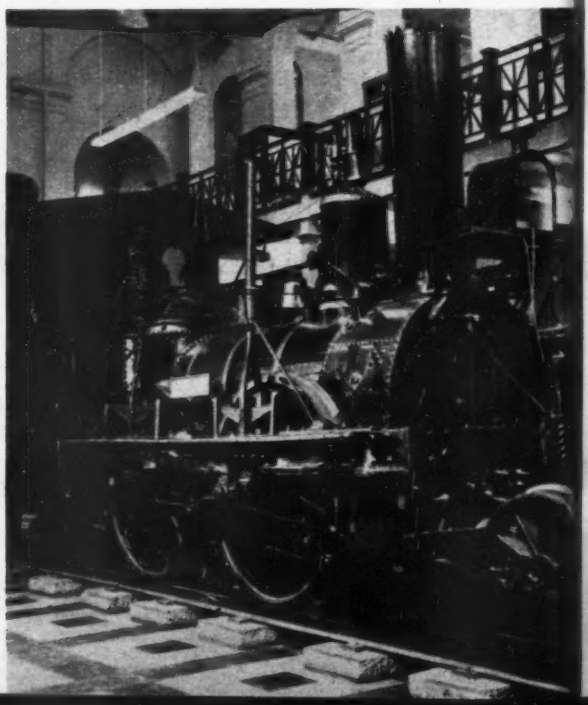
THE BEST AT OUR

WASHINGTON, D. C. is the site of the United States National Museum, shown at upper left, popularly known as the Smithsonian Institution. This world-famous landmark is a warehouse of knowledge for the many thousands of culture-minded people who flock to its great halls each year. It is a fountainhead of information on such subjects as American history, geology, paleontology, archeology and ethnology. The exhibits on these pages were selected by Dr. Leonard Carmichael, Secretary of the Smithsonian Institution, as some of the most interesting in the museum. When you visit Washington, D. C., be sure and drop in at our National Museum for a visit. We'll guarantee you'll be glad you did. •

SKULL of Australian native's relative is painted, hung by human hair on survivor's neck before burial.

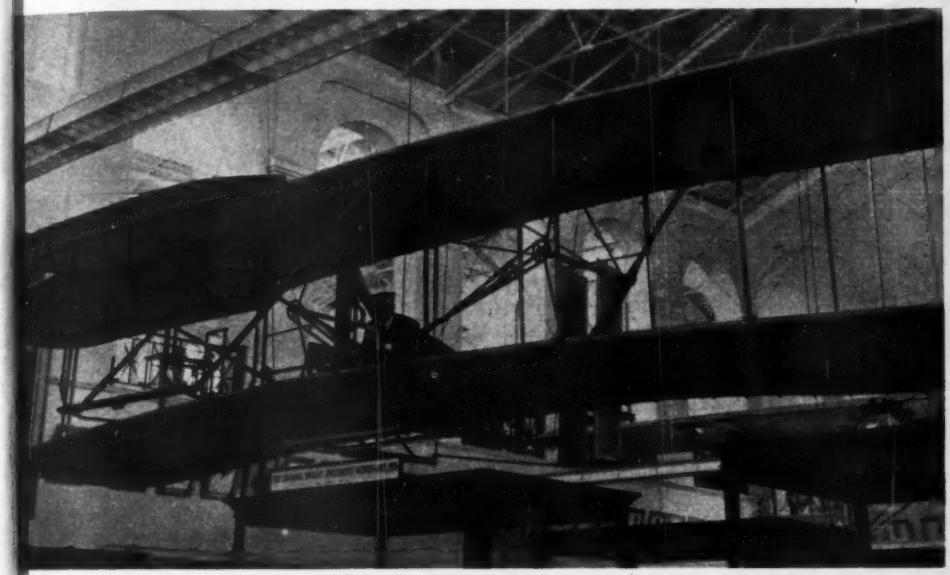
JOHN BULL locomotive built in 1831 was used by Camden & Amboy Railroad in New Jersey until retired in 1865.

SMITHSONIAN Secretary, Dr. Carmichael, and one of early Tom Edison light generators.



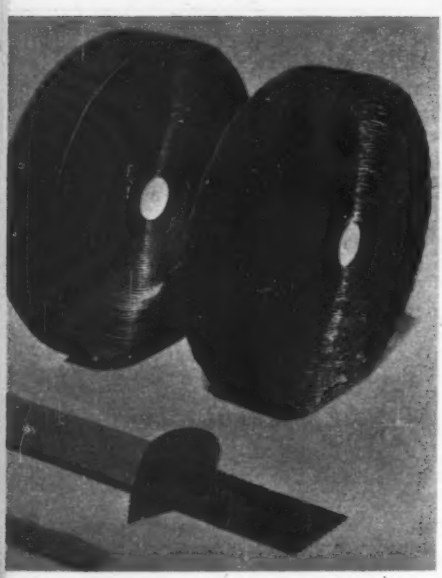
NATIONAL MUSEUM

WRIGHT BROTHERS original flying machine which took to air at Kitty Hawk, N. C., in 1903.



STEAM CYCLE, vintage 1880, is the oldest horseless carriage in collection, ran on 100 lbs. of pressure.

AZTEC stone statuette is Maquilxochtl, God of spring, flowers. Lava box held heart of sacrificial victim.



HERE'S "VELCRO"

VELCRO may put the zipper out of business. This new fastening material is made of two nylon strips. One contains oodles of microscopic hooks; the other oodles of microscopic loops. Pressed together they form an amazingly strong union, yet peel open easily. •

FLYING SYRINGE

WHAM! The flying syringe hits just the right spot and calms the savage beast. The flying syringe or tranquilizer dart now being used by veterinarians is made by Palmer Chemical & Equipment Co., Atlanta, Ga. Rifle-fired, it stuns, won't harm animal. •

NETTING MORE CHERRIES

BRUISED cherries are a source of great annoyance to connoisseurs. But things are looking up. A novel hydraulic tractor-mounted shaker boom with a cloth-covered folding catching frame is now being used to take the fruit unbruised. The cherry-shaker is still in the experimental stage but tests have shown that 36 per cent more fruit was harvested with it than by the conventional pail-picking method. The United States Department of Agriculture and Michigan State University are responsible for its development. •

Mail for McCahill

Uncle Tom is sorry he can't answer all his mail personally. In this column he'll answer the most interesting letters. Write to him at MECHANIX ILLUSTRATED, 67 West 44th St., New York 36, N. Y.

● *I understand that if all automobile companies stuck to their current models for a number of years—the way they do in Europe—the price could be reduced considerably each year. Right or wrong?*

George Hardy
Fresno, Calif.

Definitely right, George. One of the big reasons for the current high automobile prices is the tremendous re-tooling involved each year, costing hundreds of millions. Oddly enough, I recently fired this same question, with an addition, at a high Ford official. I asked him how much they could lop off the price every year if they had stuck to the '57 Ford model, and if the cars wouldn't be much better as a result. I knew what the answer was but I wanted to hear him say it. He agreed that it would not only knock the price down considerably but the quality control would be a great deal better, and he cited the Volkswagen as an example. He said, "If any of the Big Three built the same car for 15 or 20 years, as Volkswagen has done, all our cars would be absolutely faultless." So I asked him, "Then why the hell don't you do it?" His answer was 100 per cent honest: "No manufacturer in this business would have the guts to try to stick to one model." He added, however, "It sure would be great if we could."

● *Enjoyed seeing the picture of your boat, The Rooster, in MI. I have a boat very much like it and recently got in a jam when I refused to take an in-law out in the ocean fishing because he doesn't know how to swim a stroke. My wife pointed out that hundreds of people who don't know how to swim go out in small boats every weekend during the summer. Anyway, there was a big family fight. As I'm an old reader I'd appreciate getting your opinion on this.*

H.P.
Miami, Fla.

I'm with you all the way. Having a person aboard who doesn't know how to swim is an extra responsibility in case of an emergency. However, these non-swimmers can present a pretty strong argument by pointing out that thousands of people travel in airplanes every day and damn few of them know how to fly.

● *When MI arrives the first thing I look for is the index in order to locate your column. Really get a bang out of it. I would like to challenge Mrs. Betz to a hair pulling contest.*

Mrs. B. Evans
Fairmount, Ind.

If Mrs. Betz (who called me "surly, insolent and ugly") reads this challenge and isn't chicken, I'll do my ugly best to have the match in Madison Square Garden.

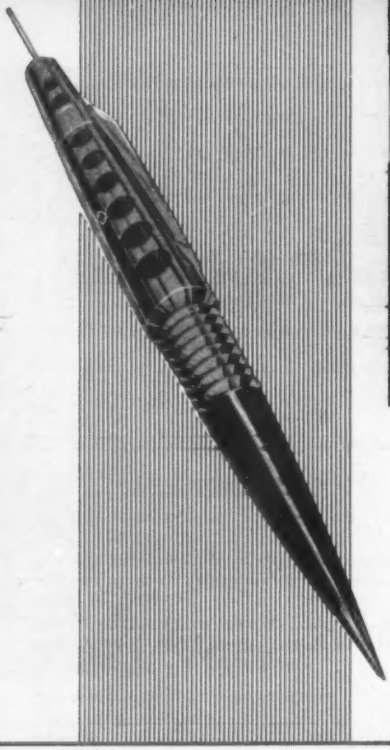
● *I think the Texas Oil Company should be congratulated for presenting the major advance in National Defense in this century. After seeing your basketball-like head on billboards everywhere I go, no one would have the guts to invade us with your picture facing them at every turn. Incidentally, what kind of crash helmet is that you're wearing in that picture?*

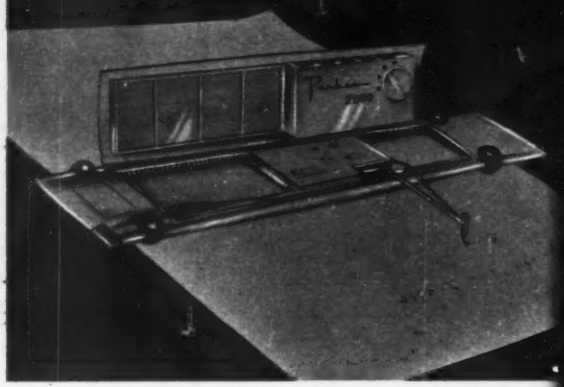
Phil Tracy
Cleveland, Ohio

Crash helmet, hell—that's my shower cap.

● *Your advice to Mr. Gelb on page 46 of August 1958 MI regarding the use of high-test gasoline in the lower compression engines leaves me wondering. My company's 1957 six-cylinder Fords have a compression ratio of 8.6:1, which is slightly higher than the 8.2:1 you used in your answer to Mr. Gelb.*

[Continued on page 144]





Tomorrow's Pens

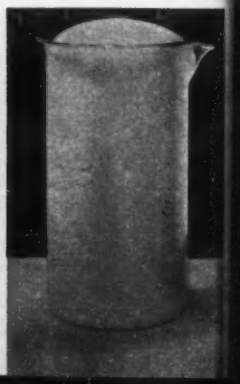
THE pen at left is solar-powered, burning an impression onto the paper with an electric arc. The instrument above is a Voice-Writer, combining a dictaphone with a script-writing pen. Both are dreams of Parker Pen Co. stylists, preparing for tomorrow's brave new world •

MAKING SUBS LIGHTER

ATOMIC subs are being given added buoyancy by filling structural voids with Lockfoam, a polyurethane foam, instead of the usual pitch and pine. Saving: nine tons per sub. •

STABILIZER of A-sub Skipjack is filled with liquid Lockfoam which expands rapidly to fill cavities.

DEMONSTRATION shows how small quantity of the plastic foams, expands and then sets as a solid.



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BABY ACES BY THE DOZEN

R. O. Ambriole, Fort Wayne, Ind.

Kneil Kleier, Inola, Okla.

Victor Wendt, Opa Locka, Fla.

Jesse Ross, Melvin Straw, Fremont, Ind.

Carl Walters, West Bend, Wis.

Lester Zehr, Jr., Fort Wayne, Ind.

A WHOLE family of home-built MI Baby Aces dominated the Experimental Aircraft Association's 1958 Fly-In at Milwaukee and included the clan's grandpappy (top right), model for the plans published by MI in 1955. It was flown in by present owner Jack Cornes. Ingenious design changes, especially in the tail, are evident in the progeny. Names under the planes are the owner's and in most cases the builder's. There are now 51 Aces flying and 190 being built. Beauty made by Chicago's St. Rita High students (right, second from bottom) won MI Achievement Trophy for the year. •

Jack Cornes, Highland Park, Ill.

Leroy and Gerald Young, Viola, Ill.

Everett Hepler, Rochester, N. Y.

Robert Stephens, Wichita, Kan.

St. Rita High School, Chicago, Ill.

Leroy Huff, Tony Spezio, Oklahoma City.

MI TESTS THE ARMY'S NEW M14...

HAVE NEW GUN, WILL TRAVEL

By Robert Hertzberg

M14 MAGAZINE holds 20 rounds, snaps in quickly, gives continuous fire power.

SHED a tear. The famed Garand M1, lugged around by millions of GIs of two generations, is being replaced by a brand-new rifle known officially as the Springfield M14. This weapon is the product of a coordinated team effort by ordnance experts of the Army's Springfield (Mass.) Armory. Already underway is a $35,000,000 program for quantity production of the M14 and two companion guns.

The M14 is the first member of a new United States small-arms weapons system built around the 7.62 mm NATO military cartridge. The 7.62 is about $\frac{9}{16}$ of an inch shorter overall than the familiar M1 cartridge but otherwise has the same outline and packs the same powerful punch.

Two features of the M14 struck me immediately when I saw the gun for the first time on the test range of the Spring-

M14 CARTRIDGE and magazine are shown with longer M1 slug, eight-round M1 clip.

M14 WEIGHT is ten pounds. Note long flash suppressor forward of front sight.

field Armory: a big box magazine sticking out through the bottom of the stock, just forward of the trigger guard, and a long, slotted flash suppressor attached to the end of the barrel, beyond the front sight. The detachable magazine holds 20 rounds, as against the eight-round clip of the Garand. An empty magazine can be jerked out and a fresh one snapped into position in a bare second, giving the soldier virtually continuous fire power.

The suppressor is the answer to a common complaint from the Korean front that the bright muzzle flame of the M1 provided enemy gunners with convenient aiming points. The slots break up the flash into relatively dim little sparks that are scarcely noticeable 50 yards away.

Ready for action, the M14 weighs in at just ten pounds, a scant four ounces under a loaded Garand. However, because of the stabilizing effect of the low-hung magazine, it handles beautifully and "points" naturally.

The M14 is designed to fire either semi-automatic or full automatic, depending on the setting of a small lever above the trigger on the right side of the stock. However, rifles will be issued to troops with the lever replaced by a blank stud and with the mechanism set for semi-automatic fire only. The lever will be furnished separately and will be installed at the discretion of field commanders.

The sample M14 put at my disposal was fitted with the shift lever. After firing the gun several times both ways, I think I know why the full auto feature is being held in reserve: In peacetime, ammunition manufacturers wouldn't be able to make [*Continued on page* 156]

Hunting and Fishing

HUNTING THE SNOWSHOE RABBIT

By Wynn Davis

DEAD GAME. Five swift snowshoes were not quite quick enough to escape Deadeye Davis and trusty basset hound dog.

THE big hunting prize of the long-eared tribe is the huge, lightning-fast snowshoe rabbit (he can do 30 mph) of the deep forests of the north and the higher altitudes of the mountain ranges. He is not actually a rabbit but a true hare. And he is blessed with all the speed, endurance and tricks for fooling hounds and hunters that have made hare hunting such a great sport wherever these animals are found.

The snowshoe, or varying hare, is big. Sometimes he exceeds five lbs. but usually is about twice as heavy as the cottontail. The snowshoe also has Seven League Boots that he loves to use at the slightest provocation. Sometimes he will beeline it for half a mile or more before turning to circle back. When driven hard he is likely to run the tails off the dogs by taking out over the hills and far away to another swamp or valley more to his liking.

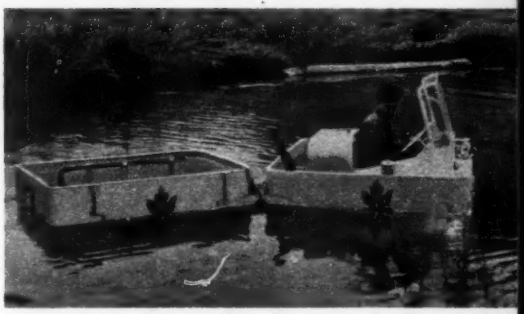
The varying hare is happiest and healthiest in cold country where the snows lie deep as a man's belt four or five months of the year. To handle so much snow, nature gave the varying hare huge, well-padded feet with plenty of hair between the toes. From these huge feet, he gets his nickname—snowshoe rabbit. [*Continued on page* 146]

YOUR NEW PHONE

TELEPHONE subscribers will soon be getting a new, small-size phone like the one shown at left. The set will be offered in several colors and, later, in two models. The first model will feature a combined night-light and dial-light. The second model will have a two-line pick-up with a hold button for the first line and provision for use with home-intercommunication and speakerphone systems. Quantity production of the novel telephones is expected to begin in 1960. •

THE WONDERFUL RAT

THE Rat is an amazingly versatile Canadian vehicle developed and built by Canadair Ltd., Montreal. Only 1,500 lbs. in weight, the aluminum buggy can tote 600 lbs. of cargo while towing another 1,000 lbs. on sleds or toboggans. The unique tandem vehicle has a small gas engine in the front section with a takeoff to power the cargo section. It runs in water, over snow and has climbed a 50 per cent grade. It is for use with troops in northern Canada. •



IT FINDS METALS

A NEW transistor pipe locator and metal detector designed for playtime or serious prospectors is now on the market. A product of the Gardiner Electronics Co., Phoenix, Ariz., the new device has a range of 21 ft. It uses a total of eight transistors, one in the transmitter and seven in the receiver. The two flashlight batteries in the receiver are said to give 3,000 hours service while the two in the transmitter operate a claimed 350 hours, making it a very economical metal-locating device. •

IT'S NEW

PHONE DOME called the Vistabooth gives a full view of all the revolving doors (so you won't miss Auntie Gert) plus desk phone. From Bell Labs.

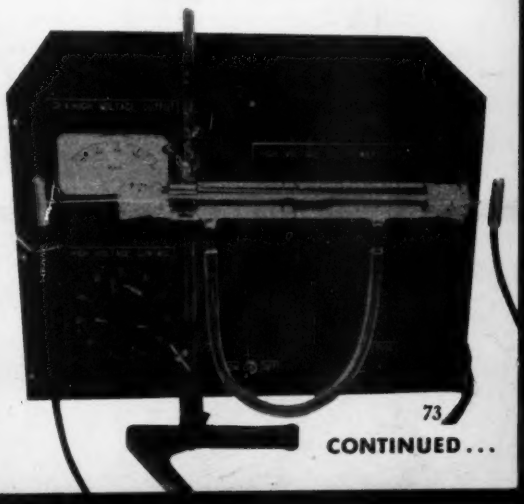
COP ARMOR, not so chic as Galahad's tilting suit but weighing almost as much (65 lbs.), is fully bulletproof. A Philadelphia Police Department development.

COPTER PA system (left) shown on USMC chopper is the first to prove loud and clear enough to let pilot talk to radioless ground troops through engine noise. The four speakers are Atlas King Cobra-jectors; amplifier is 50-watt Stromberg-Carlson.

REAR-ENGINE SPORTS COUPE by NSU, famous German motorcycle maker, has rear twin-cylinder, air-cooled, overhead cam engine of 35 cu. in. Body's by Italian body builder Bertone. Top speed is said to be 85 mph, fuel consumption's a claimed 38 mpg. The price is $1,398.

BRITISH FOR AMERICAN market, new Norton Nomad has, maker says, Limey lightness plus the strength and power needed for off-road and long-distance American riding.

ELECTROSTATIC PUMP by GE has no moving parts. Electrodes separated by insulating fluid pull dust in fluid towards them. Particles drag water molecules with them.



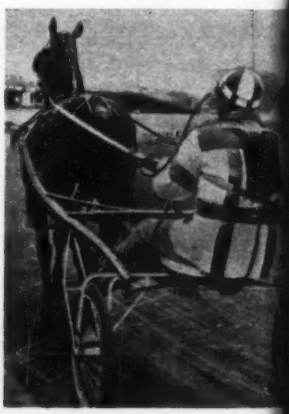
CONTINUED . . .

IT'S NEW

VOLVO PV 544 series, latest Volvo offering, has rear window reaching to rain gutter; remember McCahill's "blind corner" gripe? PV 544 comes in four models.

LIFE SHIRT called the Floater by Golden Gate Sportswear, Oakland, Calif., inflates chemically in the water, becomes a life preserver (see picture, left, below).

GOGGLE WASHER for washing mud off sulky pilot's windshield during foul weather harness races is demonstrated by Bobby Cherrix. Note rubber back tank.



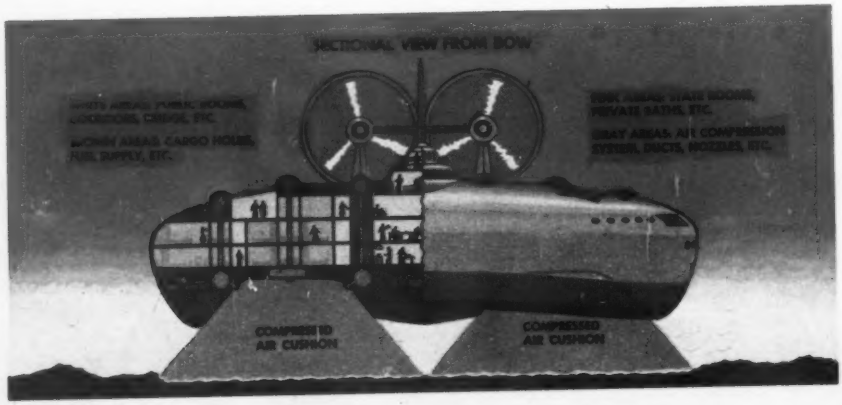
ELECTRONIC HAND, Russian, carries out movements the man merely "thinks." Only connection is through metal bracelet on his arm. Next goal: to give it "feeling." Hand can pick up a full glass, make a fist, etc.

SMALLEST TWIRLER twirls platter on a tiny spindle—no turntable required. Plays phonograph records of any size, operates on flashlight batteries, costs $40. Made in Britain. Right cute little thingumajig—ain't she?

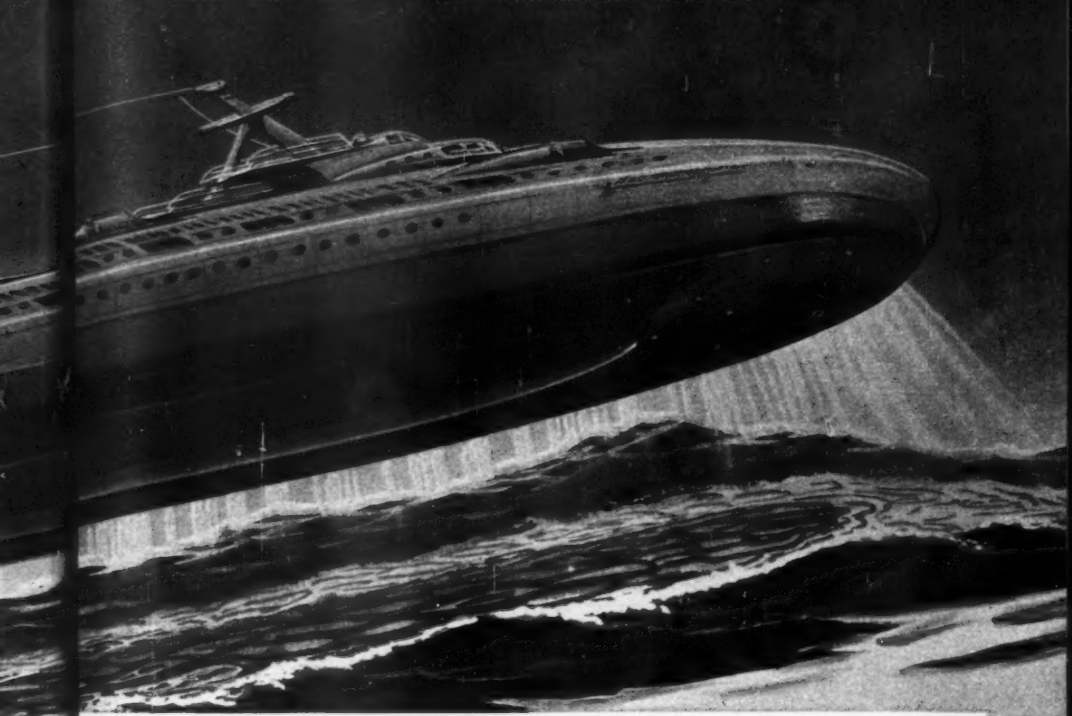
INFANTRY'S GUIDED MISSILE, British, is a close-range anti-tank weapon launched by a pistol-like firing device. Soldier guides missile to visual target by a thumb control gismo. Missile is 53 inches long, weighs 45 lbs., uses solid fuel, needs no pre-launching warm-up.

WORLD OF TOMORROW

SEAGOING



G SAUCERS



By Frank Tinsley

THIS radical new ship is now under development by the British government. According to the London Daily Mail the Saunders-Roe Aircraft Co. is now hard at work on preliminary research.

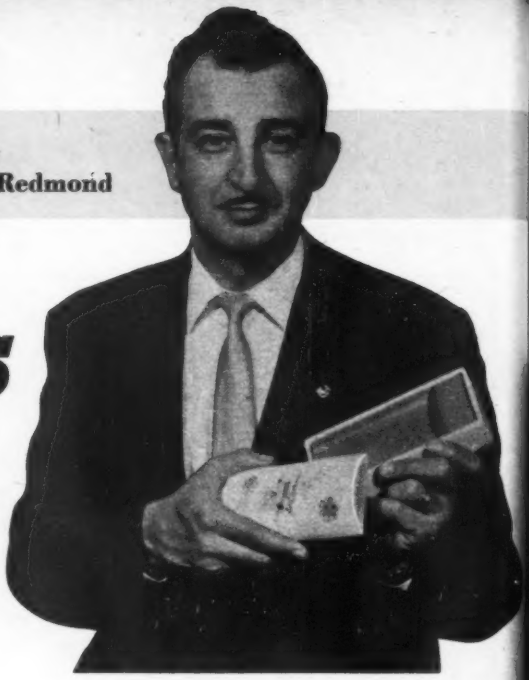
The idea is essentially the same as that proposed for Ford's futuristic "Wheel-less Car." (See Oct. '58 MI) The MI design calls for an elongated saucer form with a horseshoe-shaped cavity underneath. Compressed air is expelled from nozzles in the top of this cavity, which contains the pressure and directs it against the sea's surface, lifting the saucer a few feet above the water. Airplane-type propellers, driven by gas turbines, propel the skimmer at high speed. In docking or lying at anchor, the pressure is gradually reduced and the ship lowers to the water. A water propeller and rudder are provided for surface maneuvering.

The British expect saucers to carry up to 1,000 passengers, hit over 100 mph. Development will probably take about ten years. •

MONEY MAKING IDEA

By
Richard C. Redmond

COFFINS FOR YOUR PETS



CERAMIC COFFIN for deceased birds was idea hatched by Bob Carpenter of Buffalo.

DID any birds kick the bucket in your house lately? If they did, you can bury them in a miniature bird coffin designed and built by Bob Carpenter of Buffalo, N. Y., founder of The American Pet Casket Co.

Bob's tiny coffins-for-the-birds idea was hatched one day when he heard a woman complain about the scarcity of suitable caskets for dear departed songsters. He checked the local pet shops and found only a crude wooden box used for the purpose.

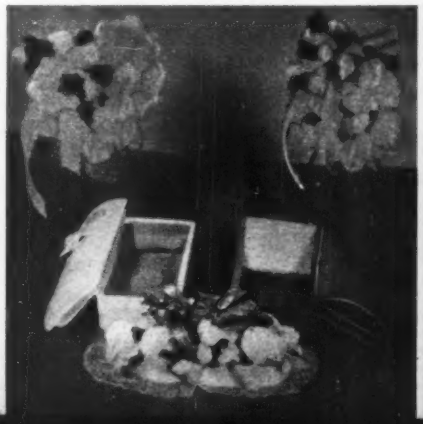
Bob decided to design his own bird coffin. His sister's mother-in-law, who was a worker in ceramics, agreed to help him. They came up with a 3x7-in. casket with looks and durability.

The little caskets are white with painted linings in bird colors of green, yellow and blue. The lids are painted with flowers and each one is decorated with a tiny molded bird. Inside is a wee plastic foam mattress and pillow to make it look authentic.

The ceramic models cost up to $6.50. If you want to give your deceased bird a ball of a burial you can also purchase a miniature floral wreath. This is a 4x6-in. job composed of artificial flowers, ribbons and lace with a Styrofoam back. Three sticks are furnished to keep the wreath erect on the grave.

"People don't put a price on sentiment when it comes to their pets," says Bob. "Why some folks even bury their canaries in the family plot!" •

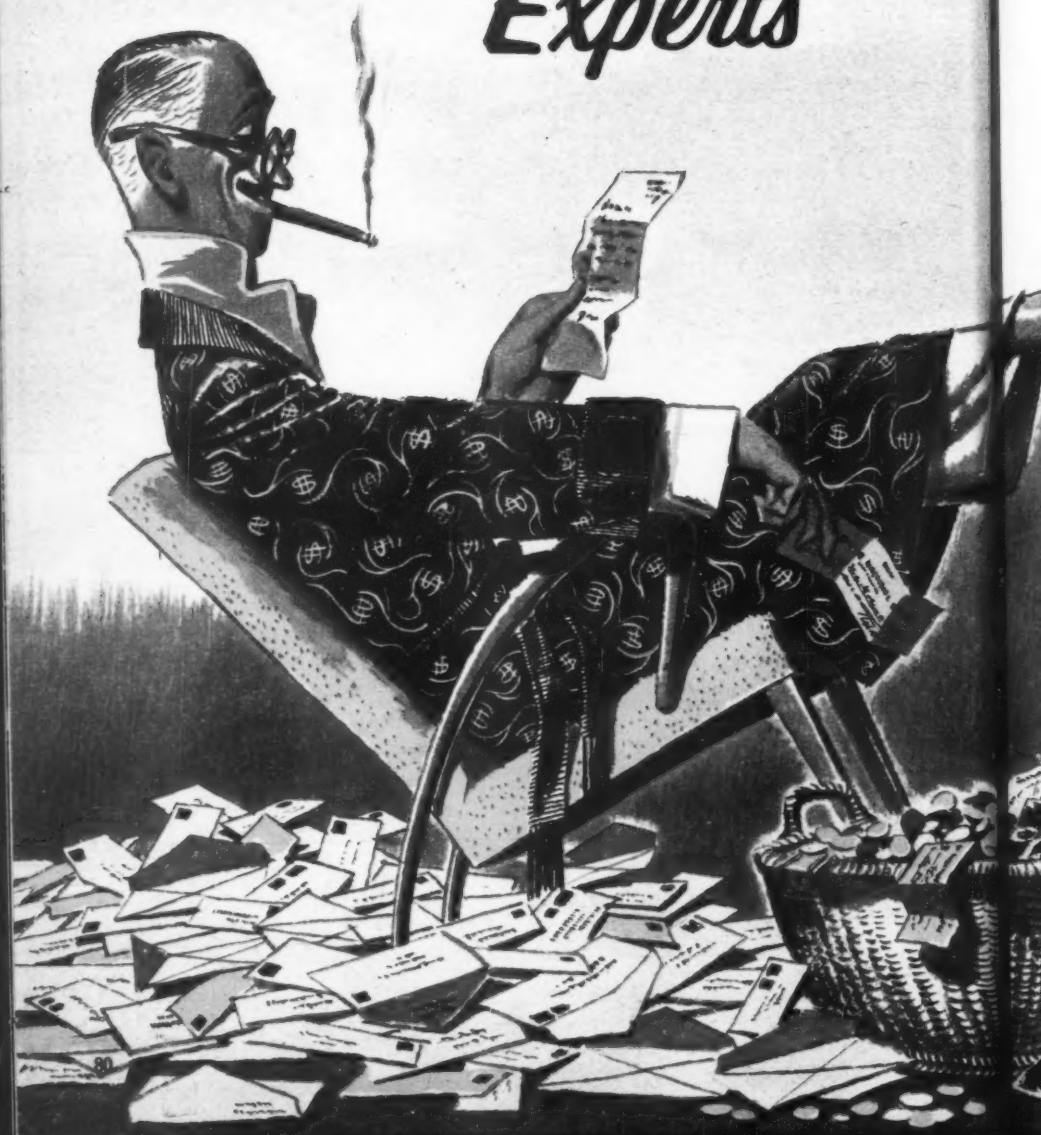
FLORAL WREATH in miniature is for bird idea hatched by Bob Carpenter of Buffalo.

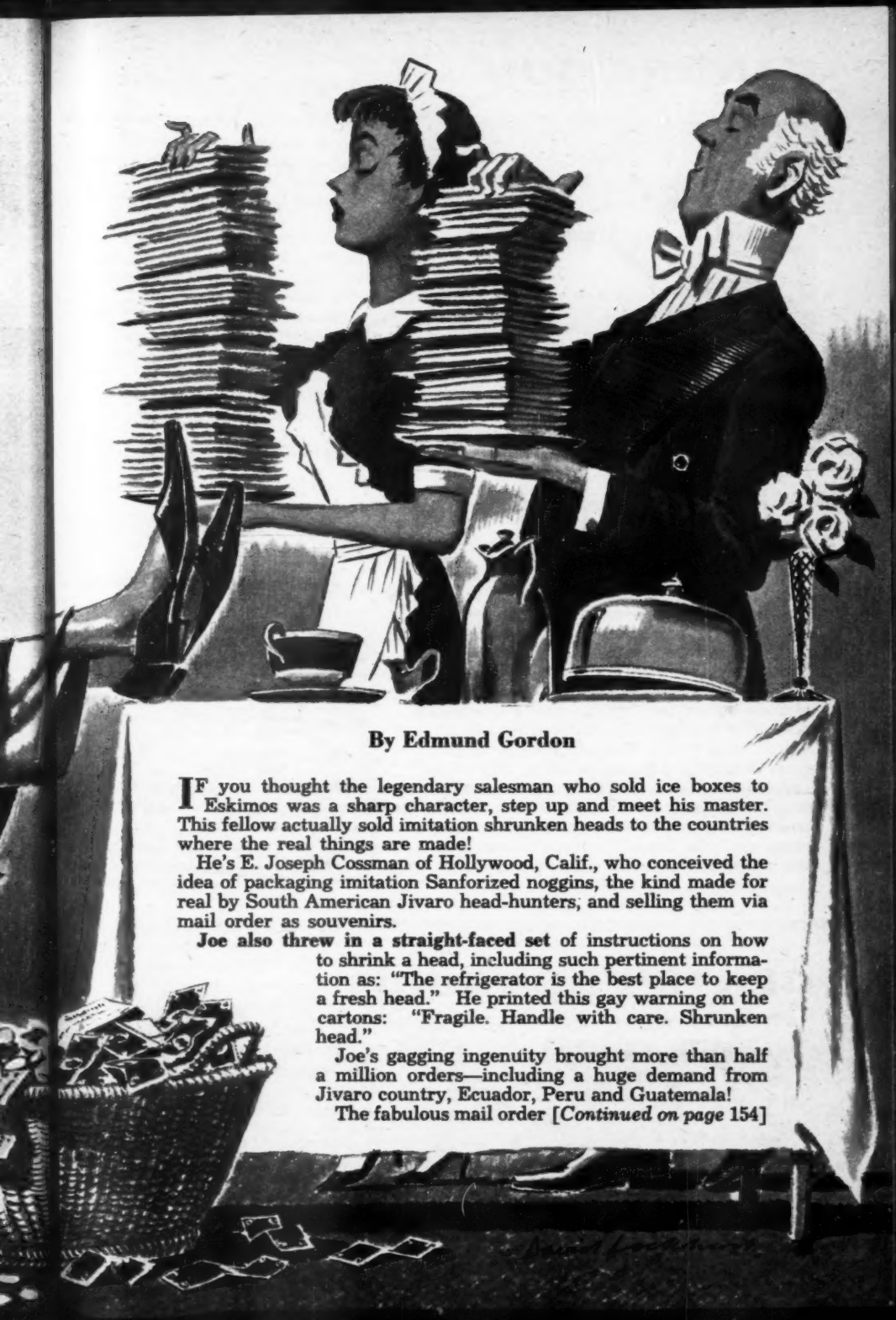


"FOR a cool cookout, boil weenies with a Therm-O-Matic immersion heater," says MIMI, our pretty product-tester, as she plunges it into the pot. Made by Kniesley Electric Co., Toledo 3, Ohio, the heater comes in five models priced from $5 to $15. Heating element is completely insulated and a cut-off switch keeps unit from overheating. •

MIMI

Secrets of the Mail Order Experts





By Edmund Gordon

IF you thought the legendary salesman who sold ice boxes to Eskimos was a sharp character, step up and meet his master. This fellow actually sold imitation shrunken heads to the countries where the real things are made!

He's E. Joseph Cossman of Hollywood, Calif., who conceived the idea of packaging imitation Sanforized noggins, the kind made for real by South American Jivaro head-hunters, and selling them via mail order as souvenirs.

Joe also threw in a straight-faced set of instructions on how to shrink a head, including such pertinent information as: "The refrigerator is the best place to keep a fresh head." He printed this gay warning on the cartons: "Fragile. Handle with care. Shrunken head."

Joe's gagging ingenuity brought more than half a million orders—including a huge demand from Jivaro country, Ecuador, Peru and Guatemala!

The fabulous mail order [*Continued on page* 154]

CAMERA GUN

"FROM Kalamazoo direct to you," murmurs Sp2 Dennis Russo, a Kalamazoo man with the U.S. Army—and *Pow!* he lets a low-flying target have it right in the kisser. Mounted on his trusty M1 is a 35mm Star Robot camera. This gunsight camera system was developed by the Army Combat Development Experimentation Center at Fort Ord, Calif., to record the hits made by the rifle on low-flying aircraft during recent weapons experimentation. Camera's shutter action is synchronized with rifle's trigger. •

AUTOMATIC WINDOW

AT last, a window that closes itself when the rain starts. The Truscon Division of Republic Steel has come up with an experimental model of a window that closes automatically in response to cold, rain, snow and wind. Sensitive electronic-mechanical contacts on the outside of the window set off an electric motor that gently closes the window. The window consists of three adjustable vents which project simultaneously from the vertical closed position. The vents reverse completely, so Mother can wash the window entirely from inside. Whenever the window is partly open, a screen rises automatically from the sill; when window closes the screen sinks out of sight. •

CENTIPEDE TRUCK

A 22-wheeled truck from the University of Michigan is charting the surfaces of Michigan highways to test their ability to bear up under year-round traffic. The 16 extra wheels are linked to sensitive instruments that measure the "profile" of the road, total irregularities per mile and similar facts for Highway Department. •

NEW ROTO-JET HELICOPTER

LATEST thing in helicopters is an import called the Djinn. Djinn is another way of spelling *genie,* an Arabian supernatural being, the most famous of which was Aladdin's Slave of the Lamp. As you will recall, kiddies, Aladdin had only to rub his lamp and the genie appeared, ready and able to do anything Aladdin wished.

The new French helicopter built by Sud Aviation comes close to living up to its name. It hedge-hops, goes forward at 81 mph and straight up at 6,000 feet per minute. Power is fed through the rotors in the same way it is fed through a rotary lawn sprinkler, only here air is used instead of water. Leftover air pressure goes out the exhaust, providing jet thrust that gives the Djinn 30 per cent of its forward power. This power system produces no torque, so no anti-torque rotor is needed at the tail; instead the Djinn has only a rudder.

The rotor has such inertial movement that the Djinn can be dead-sticked down, can hover with the motor off and even take off with the motor off. The Djinn makes a marvelous anti-tank weapon, being able to spring from hiding, fire a guided missile and hide again.

Its French builders have leased the right to build the Djinn in the U. S. to Republic Aviation, Farmingdale, N. Y. Recently Dennis Prost, French test pilot for Sud Aviation, took MI's own Harvey Gardner for a fun ride in the Djinn. From his confused, happy, babbling report we gather that he never had such fun since he went to the rooftree of the barn on the haylift. Test pilot Prost told our boy the Djinn is so safe "you never worry about anything, you jus' fly, the way you swim or walk."

—*Harvey Gardner*

McCAHILL TESTS

THE '59

"The '59 Plymouth is an outstanding buy— good-looking, comfortable, able and by far the best in its field in all departments."

By Tom McCahill

PLYMOUTH should be given a gold medal, in this writer's opinion, for being one of the few cars for '59 which hasn't taken a backward step, somewhere along the line. I could save you a lot of time, and me some typewriter ribbon, by just stating flatly that the '59 Plymouth is the outstanding car in its field. This, unfortunately, would leave me with an unproven case. As the woods are full of skeptics who demand evidence and have paid their money, it's my job to see they get it—so here goes.

As one bum once said to another, "If you're so damn smart, why ain't you rich?" Plymouth, though the outstanding car in its field, can't hope to finish better than third in automotive sales this year and it won't take a wizard to figure out why. For many years Plymouth was *not* the outstanding buy. Therefore, its sales didn't pile up enough cash to build enough factories and plants around the country even to push competitors A and B closely in the big national rat race for Production King. Tie this to the fact that both of its prime competitors have more than twice as many dealer outlets and the answer is no longer puzzling. However,

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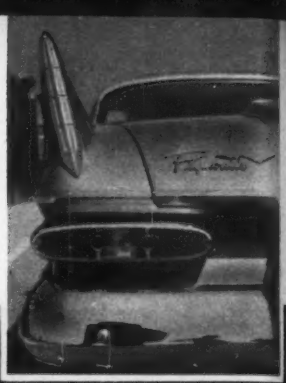
PLYMOUTH

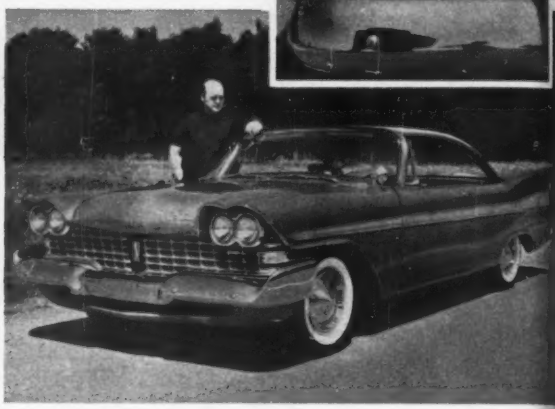
PLYMOUTH torsion-bar suspension system is tops, says Tom who gives it the works, above. In the looks department, Chrysler-made product is "A pretty smart package," Tom says.

TEST CAR SPECS

MODEL TESTED: **1959 Plymouth Sports Fury with Golden Commando engine.**
ENGINE: **OHV V8** cyls; **361** cubic ins; **305** brake hp; **385** ft-lbs max torque; **10** to **1** compression ratio. Bore **4.12** ins; stroke **3.36** ins. Fuel required: Premium. Standard axle ratio: **3.31**. Wheelbase **118** ins; length **210** ins; height **54.1** ins; width **80.3** ins; front tread **60.9** ins; rear tread **59.7** ins. Weight **3,515** lbs. Gas tank capacity **20** gals. Turning circle diameter **42.2** ft. Tire size **7.50 X 14**.
PRICE (without optionals): **$2,759.**
PERFORMANCE: **0-30** mph, **3.4** secs; **0-50**, **6.1** secs; **0-60** mph, **8.2** secs; **40-60** mph, **4.2** secs. Top speed **122** mph. All times recorded on corrected speedometer.

NEW LOOK taillights protrude between bumper and fin deck, right. Swivel-out-and-in front seats are standard on Fury models, optional on several other models. Redesigned grille boasts arched "eyebrow" headlights.





despite the above, I stress the word "outstanding" and if I can't back it up, my ears should be whacked off for parakeet fodder. So with a few apologies to Clarence Darrow and One-Eyed Connolly, here's my case: Plymouth, like the rest of the Chrysler line, has by far the finest suspension system ever built into an American automobile. That is, of course, the torsion-bar system. The feature generally touted by most competitors today is the softer, more comfortable ride they claim research has shown is what the buyer really wants. To obtain this "soft ride" objective without torsion-bar suspension, sacrifices must be and have been made.

With the more conventional coil-spring suspension in the front or the extra-added zoological monstrosity, air suspension, firmness must be discarded. Most suspension systems today are a not-too-happy compromise between the firmness that means cornering ability, control and safety—and mushiness, another word for "soft ride." As we have already reported to you in the test of Plymouth's immediate competitors, both of these cars have lost much of their former firmness in order to match the softer ride obtainable with Chrysler's torsion bars.

Plymouth has a ride as unjarring as either of the other two, plus the firmness needed in corners and emergencies. To put it another way, in 1958 Plymouth could outcorner either one of them and had a better ride to boot. For '59 their ride is just as comfortable as either of the others and the car *can still corner.* This one feature alone would be enough to sell me if I were in the market for a car in this field because when I buy a car the one feature I want above all else is roadability and control at all times. In my book, performance and looks are rated far behind this *must* characteristic.

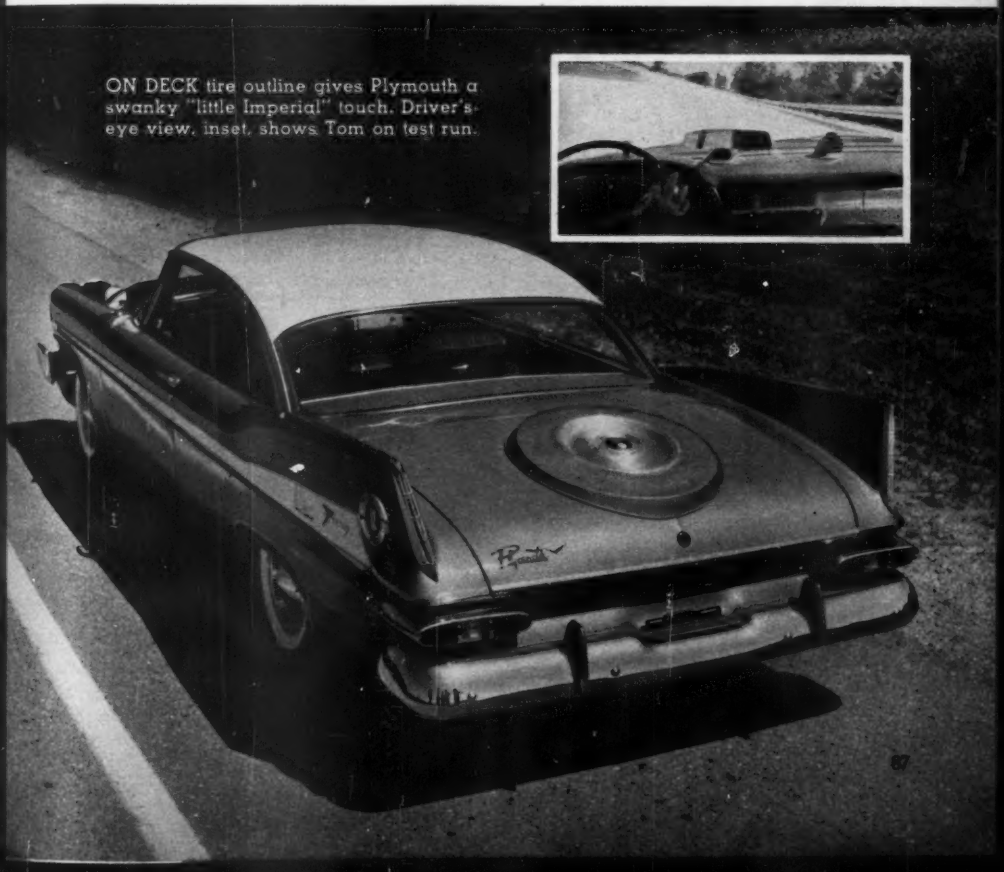
To continue with my case, we can now slide over to the looks. The car I tested was the 1959 two-door hardtop Sports Fury. This year, with its tire outline on the rear deck (which seems to look better on the Plymouth than on the Imperial), plus its individual swivel-out-and-in front seats, the Plymouth is

a pretty smart package. Now I learned a long time ago, the hard way, that styling or "looks" which appeal to me may look like a dog to you. But to me, in this year of fins in all camps, Plymouth has done it much more smoothly because they've had fins for quite some time. I think this Plymouth Sports Fury is as good-looking a car as any on the road and the whole package is in better taste than some others I've seen.

Point Three, considered very important by many, is: "Will the car go?" Here I must admit I was totally unprepared for what the tests brought out. The Sports Fury is the deluxe Plymouth, comparable pricewise to Chevy's Impala and Ford's Fairlane 500. To test the '59 Fury I was given the latch key to the Chrysler Proving Grounds, a day and half ride by fast bicycle from Detroit. My principal test car was equipped with a "Golden Commando" V8 engine that displaces 361 cubic inches, the largest in the low-priced field. The standard Fury engine is a 318 cubic-inch V8, for less furious sports, and the six-cylinder 230 cubic-inch engine is still available for the economist.

A great many years ago on these pages we originated the 0-60 test which has become pretty standard around the world by now, wherever the pointy-headed automotive set gathers. Zero to 60 mph, in the old days before the Korean fracas, used to reveal to the buyer what he might expect in a friendly traffic light race. Back in those days it took a hot Chevy to break 20 seconds and a Plymouth wouldn't even try, under its former reefed mainsails.

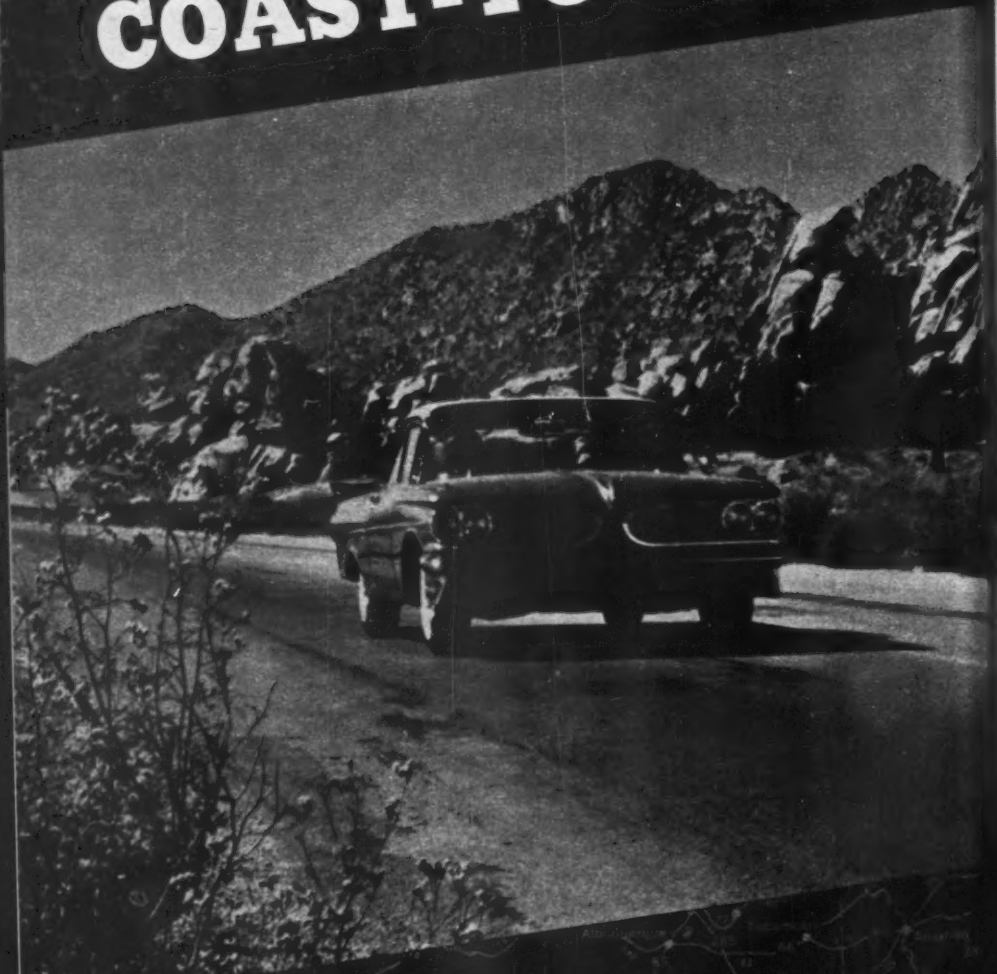
As the years progressed, the get-up-and-go properties prospered. For a long time the hot cars were the ones that could break [*Continued on page* 150]



ON DECK tire outline gives Plymouth a swanky "little Imperial" touch. Driver's-eye view, inset, shows Tom on test run.

By Tom McCahill

COAST-TO-COAST



SAN DIEGO

T FOR LESS THAN $36

Uncle Tom reaches into his bag of automotive know-how to average 21.7 mpg in a full-sized American sedan. Here's how you can do it, too.

McCAHILL going for an economy run is similar to a pheasant going for a good swim. For years we've rarely given any gasoline consumption figures in our tests for a very simple and basic reason: they'd be inaccurate in most cases. The biggest single factor in gasoline economy is the driver, not the automobile. A driver with a right foot as nervous as a mongoose's nose, who starts off by flooring the gas pedal and rides up to traffic lights at fairly full bore before jamming his brakes on, may get less than 12 miles to a gallon from a car capable of 18 mpg properly driven. Every year I get many letters complaining about low gas mileage. Some undoubtedly are justifiable complaints but many just reflect poor driving habits.

When I was testing the 1959 Pontiac, during lunch with President Semon E. "Bunky" Knudsen and Public Relations chief Bob Emerick the subject of Pontiac's new, slightly de-tuned, gas economy car came up.

The car is basically the same as all other '59 Pontiacs; the only difference is the engine and the 2.87 rear axle. The engine has an 8.6 to 1 compression ratio, against 10.5:1 for the standard

ON THE ROAD. Tom crossed hot Arizona desert in 104° temperature, left. Below, NASCAR's tall prexy Bill France and Chief Inspector Norris Freil, who kept boys honest, flank Jim McMichael and Tom.

CROSS-COUNTRY junket began in front of the El Cortez Hotel in San Diego, Calif.

PONTIAC leaves the Yuma border inspection station between California and Arizona.

Pontiac V8, which means cheaper regular gasoline can be used. And the horsepower is 215 as against as much as 345 hp in some of Pontiac's hotter offerings. However, the torque of 390 ft. lbs. isn't much lower than the biggest engine's 420.

The economy model, known as the 420E, gets its top torque at a low 2,000 rpm against the wildcat's 3,200. This engine is available on all models and, though any performance difference from the hotter engines is undetectable without a stopwatch up to 75 mph, it will run out of legs in the vicinity of 100 mph. The big deal, next to the compression ratio, is the tamed-down camshaft, profiled to give top performance at useable turnpike speeds and at the same time allow for stretched gas mileage without the added expense of premium fuel. As I recall, Knudsen said, "Even a hotrod jockey such as yourself could probably get good mileage out of this car."

Nevertheless, I was surprised when, a few days later, I received a call from Pontiac asking if I'd be interested in making a long test run with this 420E model. A quick trip to Pontiac showed that Knudsen had not forgotten the remark about my being a hotrodder who'd never been on an economy run in his life.

Knudsen told me that he didn't want any of the usual economy run tricks, such as driving without shoes (which allows you to feather the throttle more delicately). He wanted standard lubrication in the car instead of the lemon-juice consistency oils usually used. Worst of all, he stated, "Air tire pressure should not exceed 30 pounds"—which is two pounds less than I normally carry in my own cars. The difference between starting with 30 lbs. of air and 50 or 60 can mean as much as two mpg—and 100 lbs. of air could add as much as four mpg in rolling country.

In other words, Knudsen wanted this test car driven the way any Joe Blow could, if he cared to. Last, but far from least, he insisted that the average speed be better than 40 mph. The proposed route was from coast to coast, starting from San Diego, Calif. and ending in Savannah, Ga. This would take us over mountains up to 5,000 feet high, across deserts and through many big cities and lots of traffic. When it was suggested

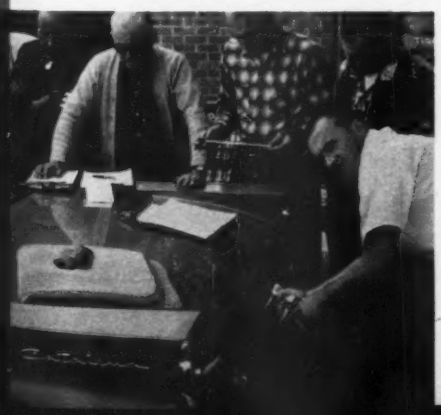
TOLL STOPS, red lights and the Texas State Fair furrowed Chrome Dome's brow.

CROSSING OL' Miss. Heavy traffic east of the river cut average speed and mpg.

that we run through the big cities at night when traffic was low, this was also vetoed and I soon began to wonder whose side these guys were on. As a relief driver I wasn't allowed to pick a feather-foot but my assistant, Jim McMichael, world-famed trunk-tester. Jim won the passing contest at Daytona Beach last winter, an event for lead-foots and nobody else. McMichael has always been about as economical on a throttle as the Armed Forces on expenditures. But the prospect of semi-gently driving from coast to coast sounded intriguing so I took on the assignment.

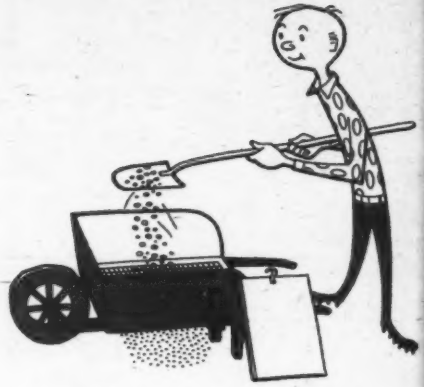
Seated right alongside of me at all times was Norris Freil, Chief Inspector for NASCAR, who was certifying the run. A few remarks showed me that Freil, whom I've known for years, was as straitlaced as a Marine top sergeant when it came to violating any of the rules. In the glove compartment of the test car was an electric clock with a split-second hand that was wired directly to the ignition switch. The moment the switch was turned on, the clock would start to run and, even when we were standing still, the elapsed time was being registered. When I asked Freil about turning off the switch and coasting down the mountains (an old economy trick) he not only said "No!" but refused to let us slip out of gear, even with the engine running. The car had to be under power at all times. As any automobile man knows, a manual transmission is more economical than an automatic job but our test cars were equipped with four-speed Hydramatic, as Pontiac sells more cars with this transmission.

UNCLE TOM watches elaborate fueling ritual, below. Clock in glove compartment in photo at left recorded elapsed driving time. Other instrument is a vacuum gauge.



Our caravan, including a photographer's wagon and another wagon for engineers and baggage, left San Diego shortly after seven in the morning. This was the first time I had driven my car, which meant I had less practice than Adam when he bumped into Eve. As we assaulted the mountains, instead of belting over them in flat-foot style I kept the throttle as rock-steady as possible and even backed off a hair or two when I felt my manifold vacuum was dropping to a point where I'd be pulling on the high-speed jets of the carburetor. On some of these mountain peaks my speed would drop to as low as 30 mph but I was careful to [*Continued on page* 162]

WHISTLING TOASTER to tell Mom (who is hunting for Junior's Cub cap) the toast is done. Sondra Golias, Niagara Falls, N. Y.



BOTTOMLESS BARROW with interchangeable plates—one being a screen for sifting sand or ashes. M. M. Carey, New Castle, Pa.

INVENTIONS WANTED!

Is there a gadget you think should be invented? If so, send its description to Inventions Wanted Editor, MECHANIX ILLUSTRATED, 67 West 44 St., N.Y. 36, N.Y. Each one printed will be awarded $5.

EGG PEELER for hard-boiled enthusiasts, egg devilers, delicatessens, to speed up egg processing. Polly Towne, Colchester, Conn.

TELLTALE BALLPOINT that changes ink color in time to warn the user that a refill is needed. James Viglione, West Haven, Conn.

CONVERSION KIT for converting present vertical-shaft lawn mower mill into an outboard motor. Vincent Pombo, Swainton, N. Y.

OPERATING EQUALLY AND ALIKE FOR THE GOOD AND WELFARE OF THE PUBLIC, ALL INDUSTRY AND OUR OWN NATIONAL ECONOMY

IMI

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1880 SUPERMARKET

LOCK, stock and old barrels, Mrs. Mary Kidd of Walden, N. Y. has created an early American general store. Spurred on by a love of collecting antiques, Mrs. Kidd, with the aid of her husband, began putting her 1880 country store together. The little two-story building, once a barn and carriage house, sits behind her home. It is stocked with everything from fine herbs to horse collars, with a post office in one corner lighted by old oil lamps. Visitors flock to visit this bit of old Americana and discuss its charm around the ancient pot-bellied stove. •

VISITOR'S first view is panel glass window and cobbler's boot above the entrance, at right. Old-time pot-bellied stove and the checkerboard over a barrel recalls fond memories of the 1880s, far right. Note the spittoon, located for the easy convenience of the checker players.

ANCIENT garden tools and culinary instruments of long ago, at right. Posters touted products. Clothing and canned goods, canisters filled with perishable food, even straw hats and eggs were some of the many products stocked in the supermarket so mom could shop with ease.

POST OFFICE had series of glass-backed pigeon holes that held mail, right. Proprietor was also the postmaster in many communities. Pair of long johns are hanging on line, far right, and selection of hats for gentlemen of the period were prominently displayed in the spacious front window.

GET HI-FI OUT OF YOUR TV SET

This speaker unit achieves sound reproduction you never thought possible from table-model TV.

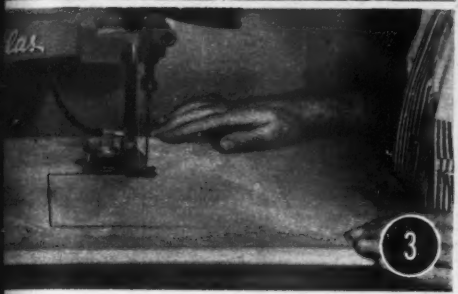
By R. J. Capotosto

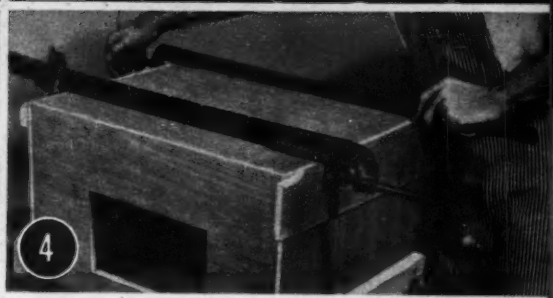
"HEY, turn up the TV . . . Grandma can't hear it."
"Don't you dare! I just got the baby to sleep."
"Leave it alone . . . it sounds tinny enough as it is."

If these complaints are typical of the TV tug of war in your home, then you and your family are ready prospects for hi-fi TV.

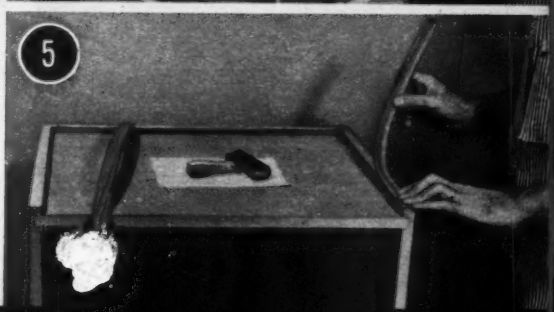
Would you like a speaker enclosure that serves as a table for your TV set? That includes a tone control for the speakers? That has an outlet for earphones and another for an induction plate (left) to be used in conjunction with a hearing aid by hard of hearing persons? You would? Then here's the unit for you!

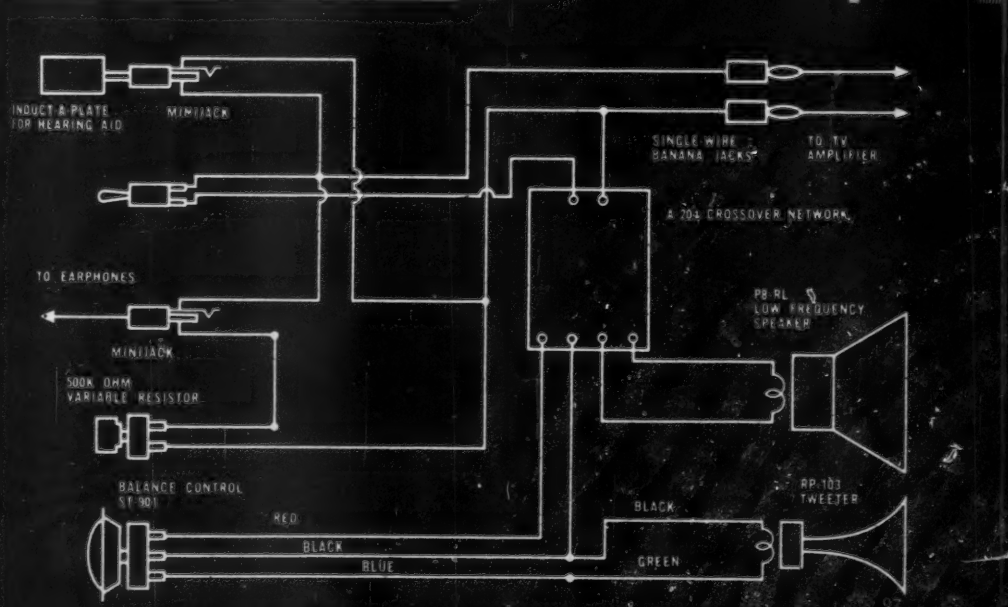
Most table model television sets have small four- or five-inch speakers that cannot reproduce the full-





1. Rip all pieces to size on circular saw. 2. Use a jointer to rabbet side and rear panels. 3. Trap door drop-out is shaped on the jig saw. 4. Assemble unit with white glue and let dry for 24 hours. 5. Cover all exposed edges with matching veneer strips.

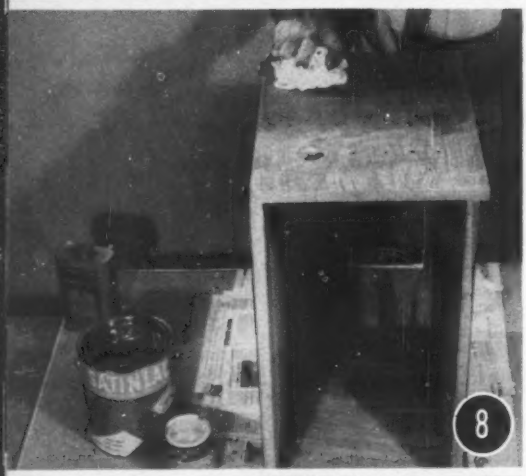




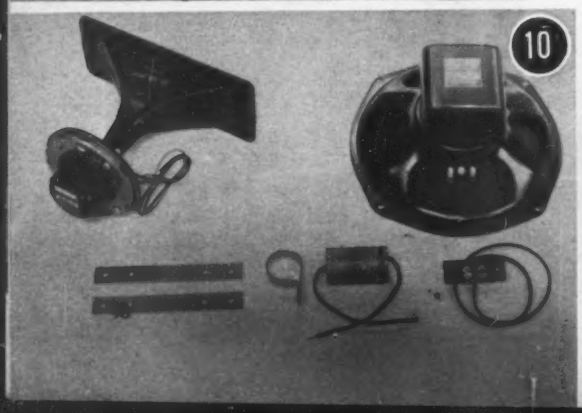
frequency range. To overcome this lack of fidelity, this unit uses two separate loud-speakers. The low-frequency speaker reproduces the frequency range up to about 3000 cycles. This end of the music spectrum has the greatest power, body and depth. Above this range the signal is channeled to the high-frequency horn-type speaker that makes music sparkle.

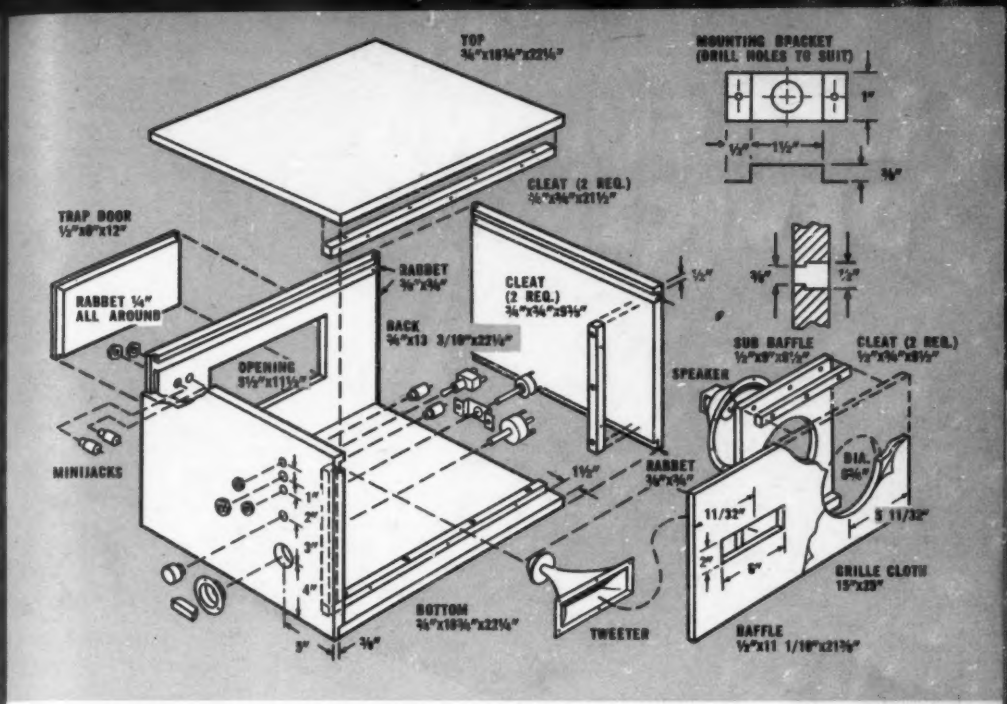
In the unit described, a Jensen eight-inch P8-RL low-frequency speaker and RP-103 tweeter are used with a crossover network. These units may be purchased in kit form with a coupling capacitor in place of the crossover network, although the latter offers better overall response and efficiency. The jacks, plug, switch and resistor are standard items. A variable resistor connected in series controls the volume of the earphones independent of the TV set.

In this case durable ¾-inch walnut was used for the enclosure because it matched existing furniture.



6. Drill control holes carefully to avoid splitting wood. 7. Baffle-support cleats are attached with flathead wood screws. 8. For a pickled walnut finish, coat cabinet with white Firzite, then rub with rag dipped in clear lacquer. 9. Staple grille cloth in place, then attach sub-baffle and cleats. 10. Jensen KDV-10 speaker kit with coupling capacitor. 11. Variable resistor is held in place with a mounting bracket. 12. Induct-a-plate plugs into top jack. 13. All wiring connections are soldered. 14. Tighten speaker screws equally to keep wood from warping. 15. Note accessibility of installations through the rear opening.



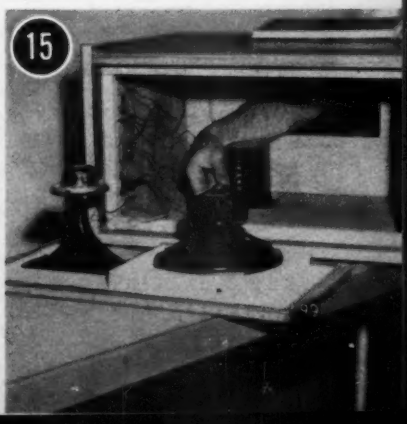


Cut all pieces to size on the circular saw. You may have to alter the dimensions slightly to fit your set. Before cutting the dadoes in the side and rear panels, make a trial cut on scrap to be sure of a snug, accurate fit. The rabbetted joints at the rear and bottom are made on the jointer. The trap door in the rear panel is cut out on the jig saw.

Now join all pieces together with glue and clamp securely. When glue dries, remove clamps and apply veneer edging to all exposed edges. Drill the holes for the controls and screw the cleats into place. Keep the grille cloth taut while stapling into place.

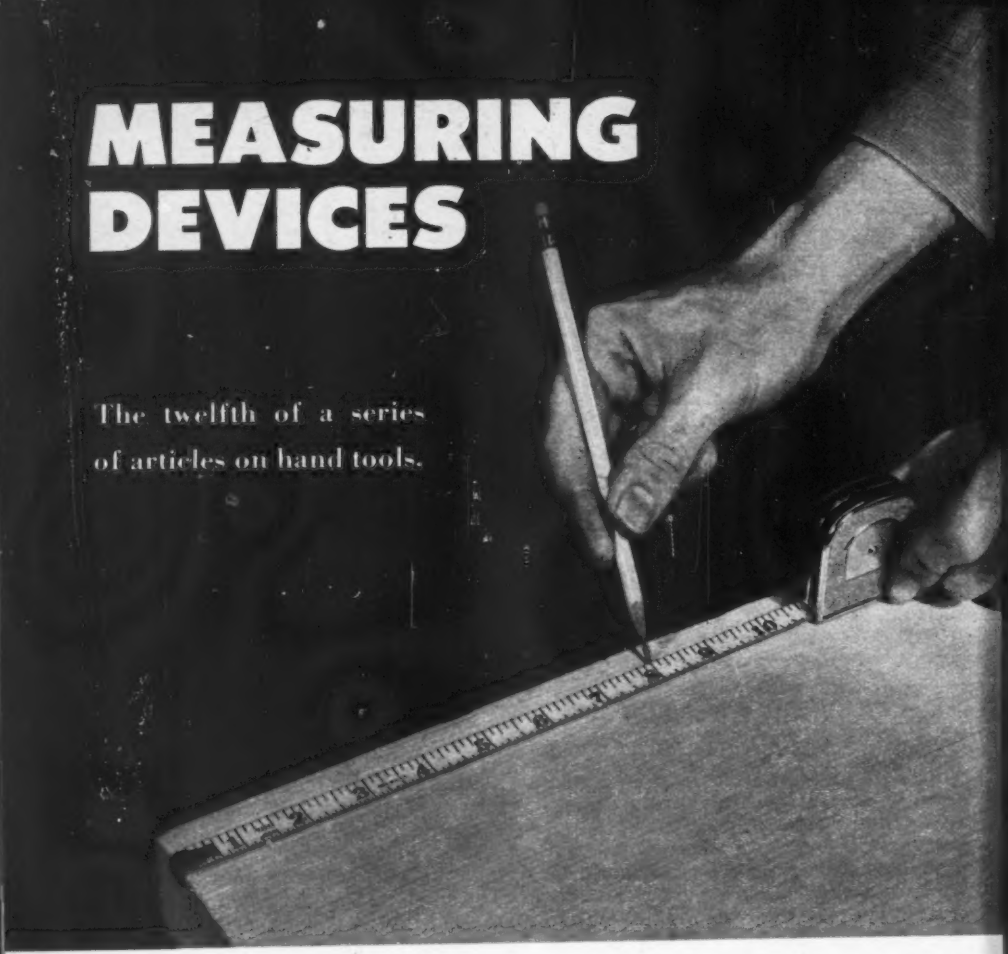
Cleats and sub-baffle are now joined and the various components installed. The crossover network should be placed toward the rear of the cabinet to clear the horn speaker.

When wiring, follow the detailed schematic that comes with the kit. The baffle board is placed into position and screwed to the cleats through the rear trap door. [*Continued on page* 132]

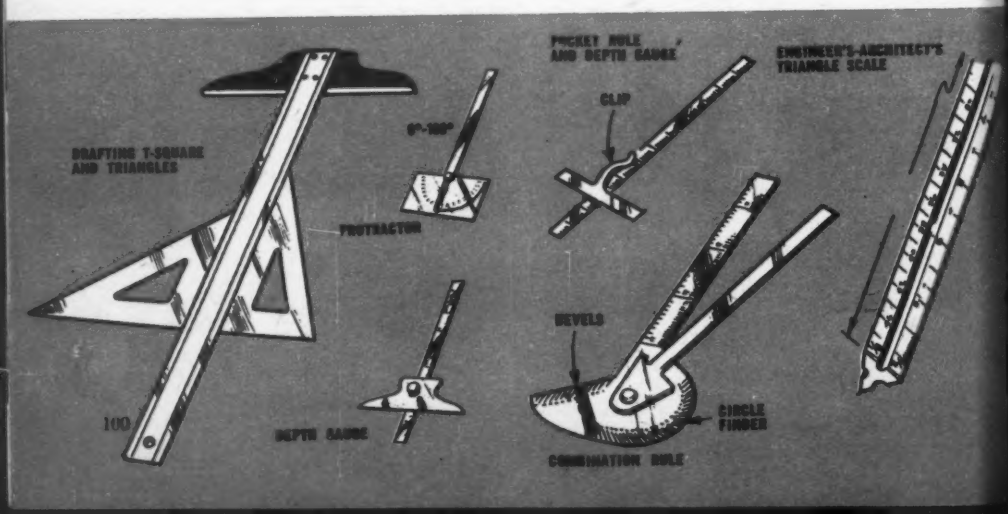


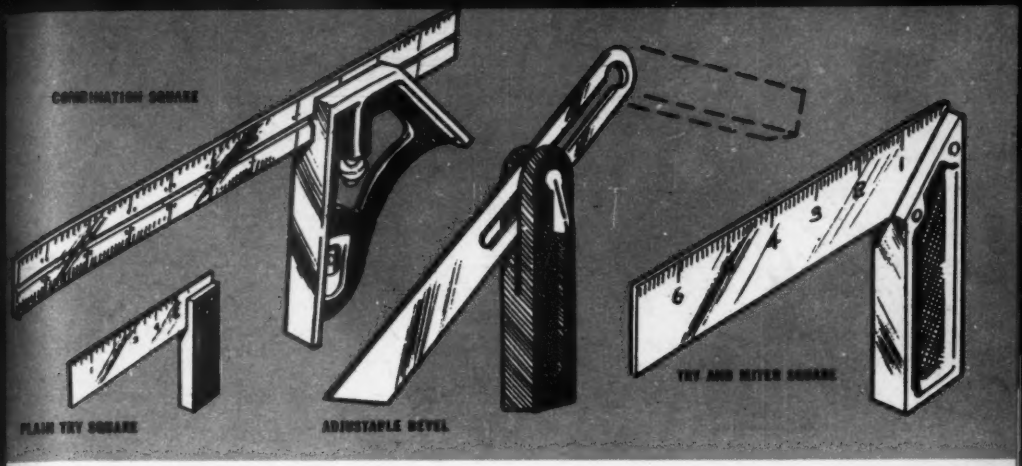
MEASURING DEVICES

The twelfth of a series of articles on hand tools.



FLEXIBLE STEEL TAPES are among the most popular measuring devices in use today.



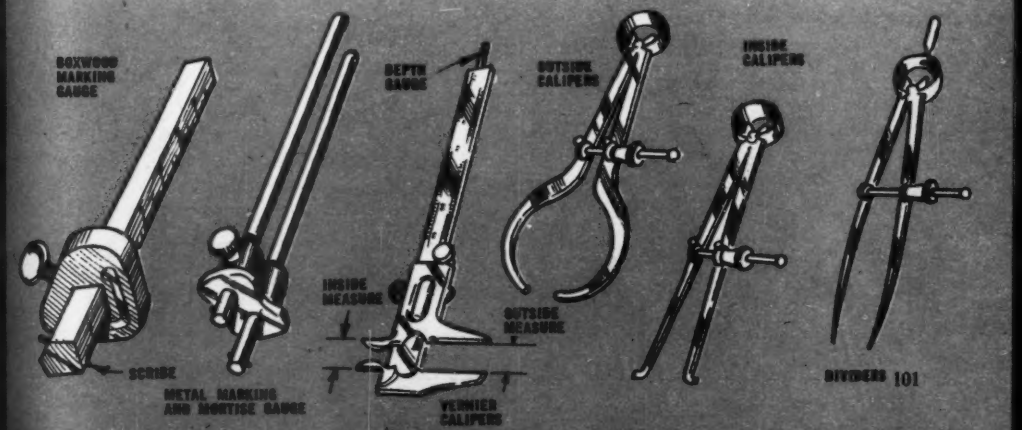


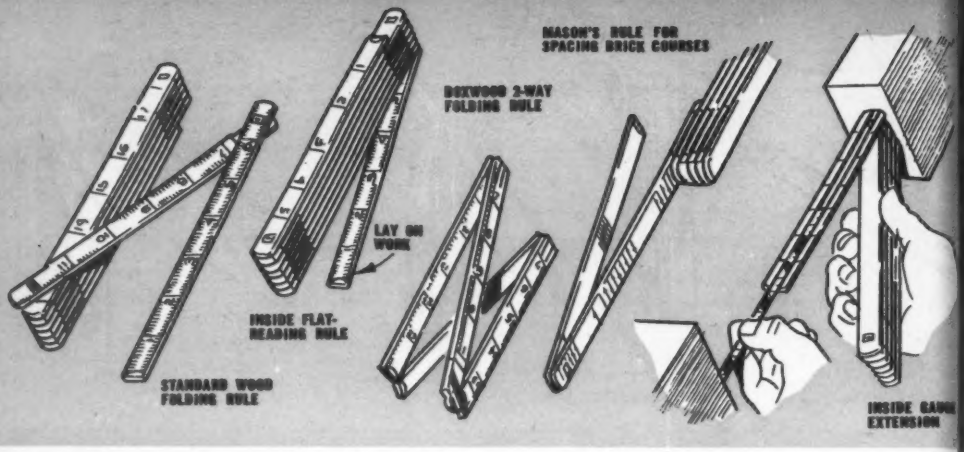
MAN'S desire to measure objects dates back to prehistoric times. Originally the limbs of the body were used as units. Probably the tribal chief's foot became the foot unit; the diameter of his thumb, the inch; the distance between the ends of his extended thumb and little finger, the span (9 inches); and the distance from the tip of his elbow to the tip of his middle finger, the cubit (18 inches).

Through the centuries measuring systems and devices have been developed to a high degree of accuracy. While this development has often been helped by such influences as government edicts, it has also been hindered by the natural reluctance of governments to alter the long-established measuring habits of a nation. So it is that the Imperial Yard, introduced to the United States by the British in 1856, has never been legalized although it is in common use. Conversely, the brilliant French metric system became our legal standard of measure by an act of Congress in 1866. Unfortunately, no enforcement provisions were written into this act. The result has been that "custom and usage" has prevailed to belabor Americans under the outmoded foot-pound-gallon "system" still in use today.

Regardless of the system or standard used, measurement falls into three classes: line, angular and end. For line measurement, tapes, rules and scales are used; for end measurement, calipers; and for angular measurement, squares and protractors.

Among the most popular rules used by mechanics and carpenters are the hinged rules, zigzag rules, bench rules,





steel and cloth tapes and yard sticks.

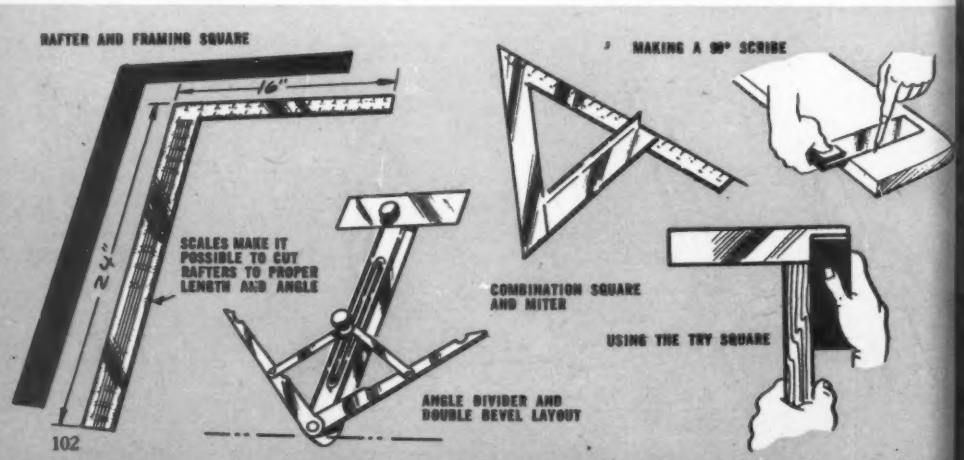
The hinged rule is usually two or three feet when extended and is made with four folds. One side is marked in eighths of an inch, the other in sixteenths. It is made of boxwood edged with brass. This rule can be used as a gauge when marking lines parallel to the edge of a piece of lumber. It can also be used to mark off stock into equal or proportional parts. To divide the width of a board into any number of parts, put the tip of the rule on one edge of the board and, by slanting, have the number corresponding to the desired parts intersect the other edge. Mark dots at each number and draw parallel lines along the board to obtain the number of equal divisions desired.

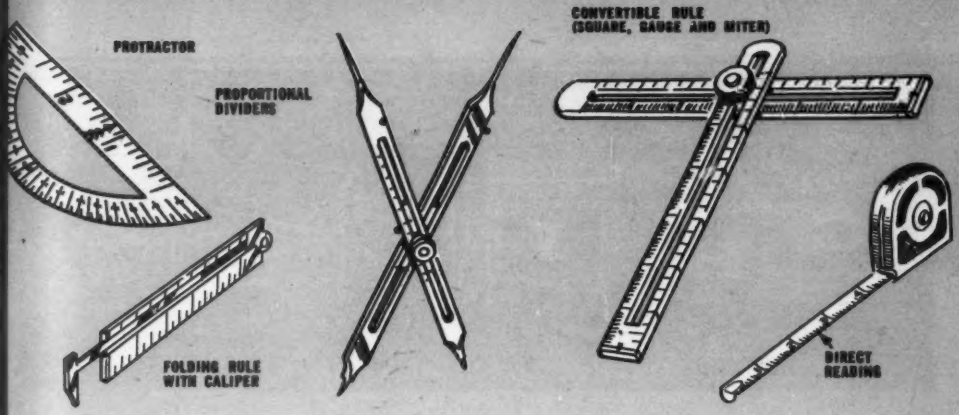
A zigzag rule makes long or short measurements. It can be extended to a six-foot length and then folded down to six inches. Zigzag rules are made either of wood or metal and are graduated in eighths and sixteenths of an inch. Certain zigzags have a graduation system of tenths and hundredths of a foot on one side, inches on the other. The bricklayer's zigzag has a brick-spacing scale on one side.

A zigzag extension rule is handy for taking inside measurements on door and window openings. Its seven- or eight-inch brass extension slide is removable and can be used to measure the depths of holes.

Caliper rules measure drill-hole diameters and board thicknesses with a high degree of accuracy. Some are made for both inside and outside measurements.

The differential rule used in machine





shops is extremely accurate. This is a steel rule with a peculiar system of graduations at one end. Through a combination of nine lines and a slanting row of dots, measurements to thousandths of an inch can be made quickly. When using this rule dividers are usually employed to lay off or take up dimensions. The dimension is taken with inside or outside calipers and then transferred to the rule for reading.

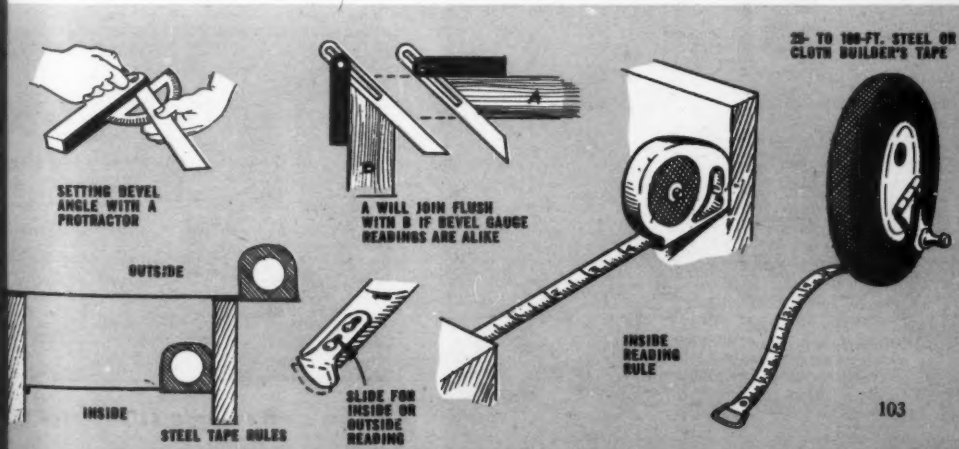
The bench rule is the most common measuring "stick" in use today. It is as likely to be found in a second-grader's school desk as on the bench of a cabinet maker. It is usually one foot long although some craftsmen prefer the 18-inch length. Bench rules may be of wood, plastic or metal.

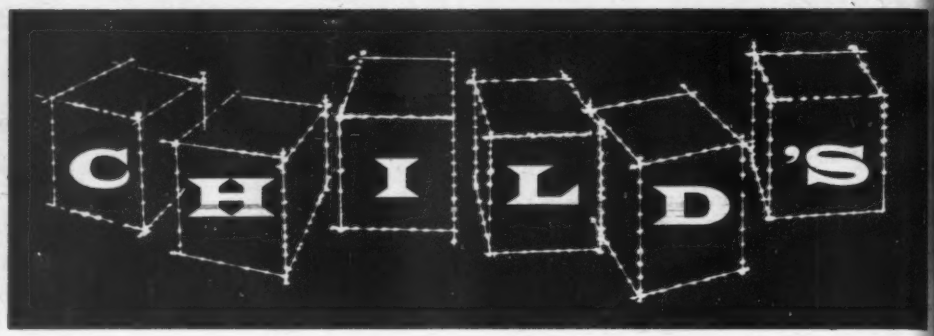
Tapes of flexible steel or reinforced cloth are used on jobs requiring long measurements. They come in lengths of four to 100 feet and are graduated in feet and inches or in tenths of a foot. All tapes feed from spools, some of which incorporate an automatic rewinding device. Cloth tapes are not recommended for precision measuring tasks as they tend to stretch when wet.

Always check the zero point of any tape before measuring. Keep metal rules and tapes lightly oiled to prevent rust and wipe them clean after use.

Squares are used to measure angles, the accuracy of which determine tight jointing jobs. The three most common squares in use today are the framing—or rafter—square, the try square and the bevel square.

The steel framing square's two arms form a right angle. The larger 24-inch arm is called [*Continued on page* 132]



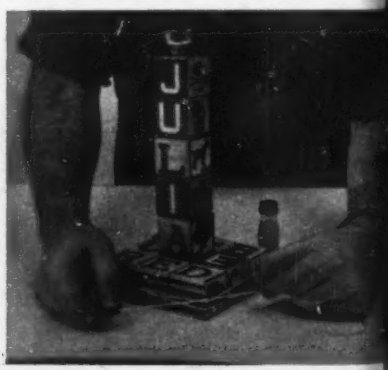


LAMP

WANT to delight your child with a personalized lamp that not only illuminates but instructs and entertains as well? It's as simple as ABC to build and as cheerful looking as the alphabet blocks that compose it. And you'll undoubtedly want to build it to spell out your youngster's name.

Begin by marking the centers of the lamp post blocks. Drill ⅜-inch holes through these and then stack the blocks on a length of ⅜-inch threaded pipe as shown in the diagram. Line up the letters

BASE BLOCKS are glued together and bound with twine until glue has set.



MARK the centers of the lamp post blocks before boring the holes with a ⅜-inch drill.

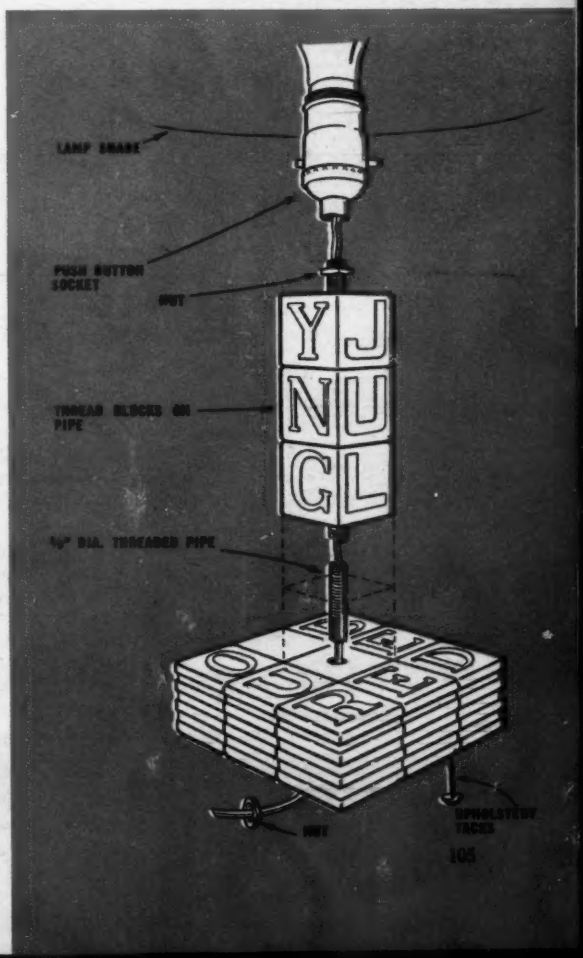
LAMP BASE consists of eight blocks glued together around sides of bottom post block.

to form the desired name or design before tightening the assembly with nuts threaded over the pipe ends.

Glue the remaining blocks together around the bottom block of the post and bind together tightly with cord until the glue sets.

Now thread the lamp wire through the post pipe and connect it to the light fixture. Screw the fixture in place, put in a bulb, cap it with a shade—and there's a lamp to put a song in the heart of any child.—*Dick Howe*

LIGHT FIXTURE is wired and then turned onto threaded lamp post pipe.



HALF BASKET

Half a basket is better than none—and it may be handier and less in the way than a "whole" one.

By Clarence Martin

THIS wastebasket is a practical and attractive project designed for use in either home or office. Its flat back is a space-saving feature that permits the basket to be placed flush against wall or desk. The natural color of the Masonite Leatherwood used in construction will blend harmoniously with any decor. And the Half Basket's simplified design and negligible cost make it an ideal project for the do-it-yourself beginner.

Your first step will be to cut a piece of ⅛x15x21½-inch Masonite Leatherwood and soak it in water overnight.

Next, form a 12-inch disk from ¾-inch scrap stock, then saw it in half. Use wood screws to secure one piece to the center of the top edge of the Masonite, the other to the bottom edge.

Now bend the wet Masonite around the half disks and tie it in place with rope or webbing. A piece of 12x15-inch Leatherwood is now cut for the back.

Cut the two corner pieces of 1¼x15-inch perforated aluminum to size and bend to right angles. Bore through the Masonite with a No. 29 drill at points near the top, bottom and center of each side. After threading these holes with an 8x32 tap, secure the angles in place with $\frac{3}{16}$-inch, 8x32 aluminum machine screws. The back is then joined to the half-round section of the basket in the same manner.

Two pieces of ⅛-inch Leatherwood are now cut to the shape of the basket's bottom and glued together.

Using your No. 29 drill, bore three holes into this bottom piece —two through the back and one through the front where shown in the diagram. Now tap the holes in the bottom piece for 8/32 threads. Enlarge the remaining holes with a No. 18 drill and fasten the bottom piece in place with machine screws.

You can now cut the two ⅝x23-in. strips of aluminum which are fastened around the curved front of the basket with machine screws through holes tapped as before.

Two more of these strips are now cut and fastened in place across the top and bottom of the back.

Finally, nail three rubber-head tacks into the bottom piece to prevent scratching.

Your basket and (we hope) your satisfaction with it, are now complete. •

1

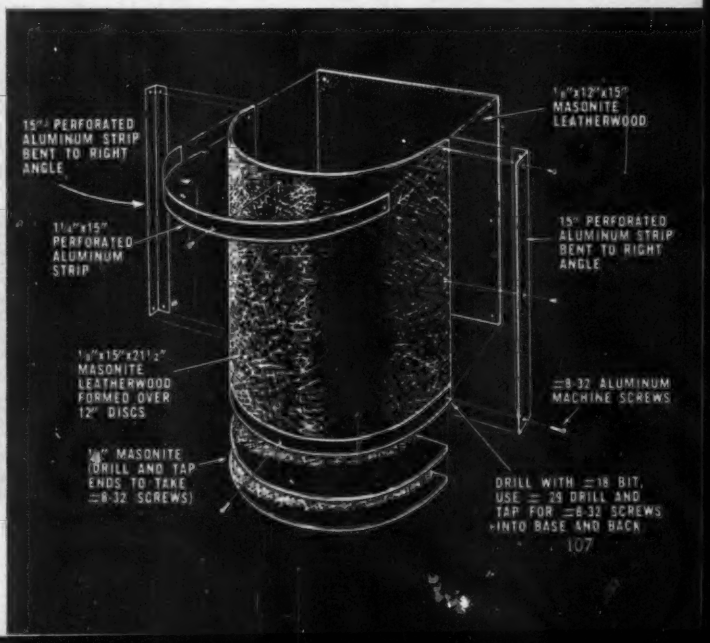
2

1. LEATHERWOOD soaked overnight in water is bent around wood frames.

2. HAND DRILL, hammer, screwdriver and saw are the only tools required.

3. RUBBER HEAD tacks nailed into bottom piece will prevent scratching.

3



HANDY TIPS

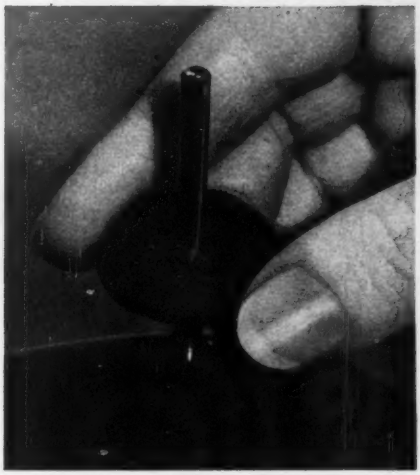
FUEL OR WATER TANK can be repaired with epoxy resin and Fiberglas. Top, leaks along bottom of tank are circled. Lower left, area is sanded clean to bare metal. Right, Fiberglas cloth is pressed smooth in coat of wet resin. To complete job, second coat of resin is brushed on after first cures. Total cost? $10. Tank was drained and disconnected for work.

FREDDIE FUMBLES

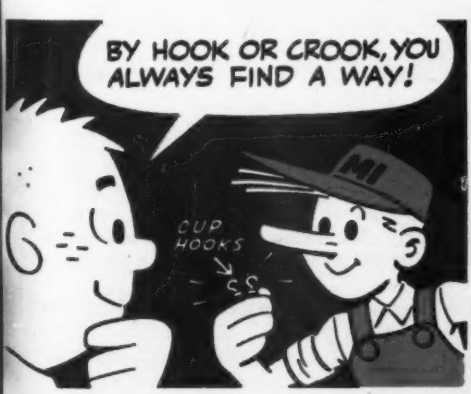
GUTTER SUPPORTS are fine ladder brackets when nailed to garage studs as shown.

FELT DISK beneath sewing machine spool prevents free spinning, protects finish.

HAND HOLDS make it easy to carry carton: cut U in each side and depress tabs.



Send Freddie Fumbles your idea of a good short-cut, time-saver or safety device in your work, whether it be in the home, shop, office or farm. Each tip accepted will be paid for at the rate of $10. Naturally we cannot acknowledge or return the ones we cannot use. However all will be carefully read and evaluated. (Those which we can use in other departments of MI will be paid for at our regular rates.) Please send in your ideas on a post card only. Address to Freddie Fumbles, *Mechanix Illustrated*, 67 W. 44th St., New York 36, N. Y.



Early American CHEST

This handsome chest was designed especially for amateur home craftsmen.

By R. J. De Cristoforo

TAKE a popular furniture design, plan the simplest possible construction, provide for a warm and mellow finish—and you have the perfect home craftsman's project. Our Early American Chest evolved from this recipe—it's easy to make and a pleasure to own.

Ponderosa knotty pine was used in the

original but the new plywood panels, faced with clean knotty pine, can be substituted if you want to avoid the job of gluing up boards. If you buy the solid stock, ask your lumber dealer to let you select what you'll need. Then you can be sure of clean, straight boards with solid knots.

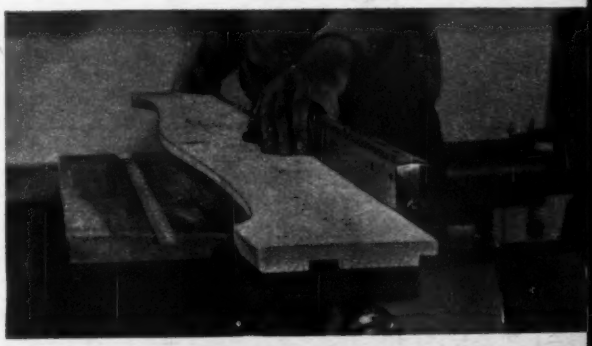
It's best to make the glued-up panels from boards three inches wide. Rip six-inch boards down the middle and invert alternate pieces to even the strain. Bore the pieces for dowels and coat the holes and mating edges with glue. Then put them in clamps and let them set for at least 24 hours. Be sure to wipe away excess glue with a damp cloth after the clamps have been tightened.

Construction Hints

Cut the dadoes in the sides before you cut the curves. Lay out all curves full-size on plain wrapping paper by enlarging the squares which are shown on the drawing. Then transfer them to the wood. Curves can be cut on a band or jig saw or by hand with a coping saw. After sawing, sand them smooth. Shaped edges must be formed on a shaper or a similar setup on a drill press. If you lack this equipment, just skip the shaping and round off all edges. Use a rasp to do this and finish the job with sandpaper. Edges do not have to be perfect, but they should be very smooth. In fact, a little discrepancy here and there will add a look of age to the project.

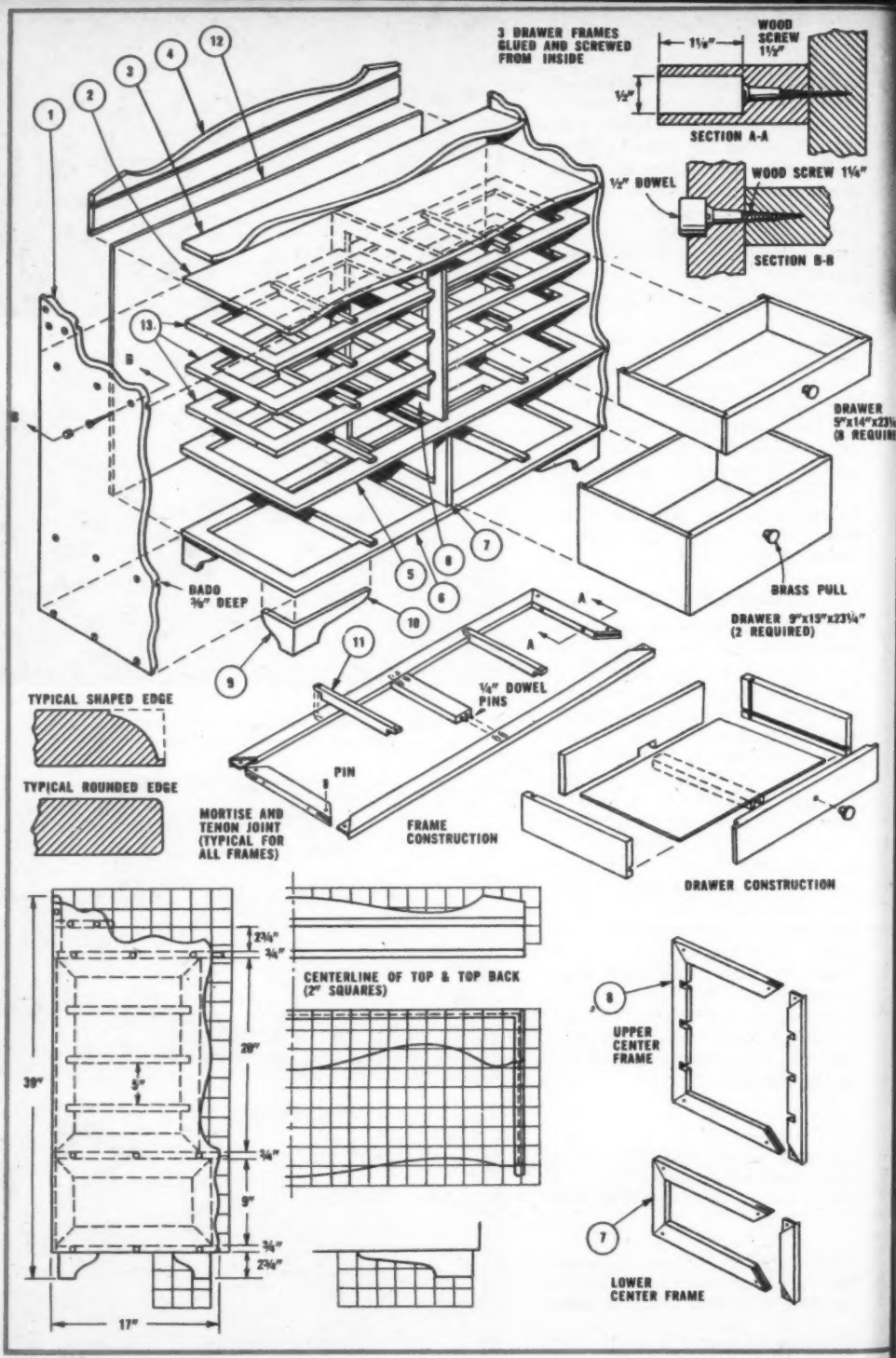
EDGES of glued-up boards are shaped. If you lack shaper, you can round the edges.

FRAMES are made slightly oversize, then trimmed to the exact size after assembly.



DADOES (above, right) are cut by using dado assembly on table saw. Same tool is used to cut rabbets.

BAR CLAMPS are used in assembly. Put scrap wood under jaws and be sure to square clamped parts.


3 DRAWER FRAMES GLUED AND SCREWED FROM INSIDE
WOOD SCREW 1½"
1⅛"
½"
SECTION A-A
½" DOWEL
WOOD SCREW 1¼"
SECTION B-B
DRAWER 5"x14"x23¼" (3 REQUIRED)
BRASS PULL
DRAWER 9"x15"x23¼" (2 REQUIRED)
DADO ⅜" DEEP
¼" DOWEL PINS
PIN
FRAME CONSTRUCTION
TYPICAL SHAPED EDGE
TYPICAL ROUNDED EDGE
MORTISE AND TENON JOINT (TYPICAL FOR ALL FRAMES)
DRAWER CONSTRUCTION
CENTERLINE OF TOP & TOP BACK (2" SQUARES)
UPPER CENTER FRAME
LOWER CENTER FRAME
39"
28"
5"
9"
17"
2¾"
¾"

WOOD SCREWS are driven in after piece has been clamped tight with ample glue in joints.

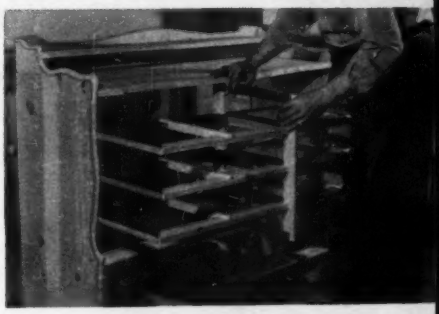
CENTER STRIP acts as drawer guide while framework supports the weight.

When parts 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6 are complete, assemble them with glue and screws. Be sure to counterbore holes for the screw heads so they may be concealed with short dowel plugs. These are glued in place, projecting slightly for a decorative effect, or sanded flush with the surface of the wood.

Now that the body of the chest is made and assembled you can make the center frames and drawer frames. Since you have the assembled chest to work with, check dimensions frequently against the chest itself so you can compensate for any little discrepancy.

The lower center frame is put in place on its own, but be sure to insert the drawer frames in the upper center frame before you put this in place. Drawer slides too, can be attached before installation of the frames. All frames are attached with glue and screws driven through from the inside. The feet are attached with screws which are driven through from the underside.

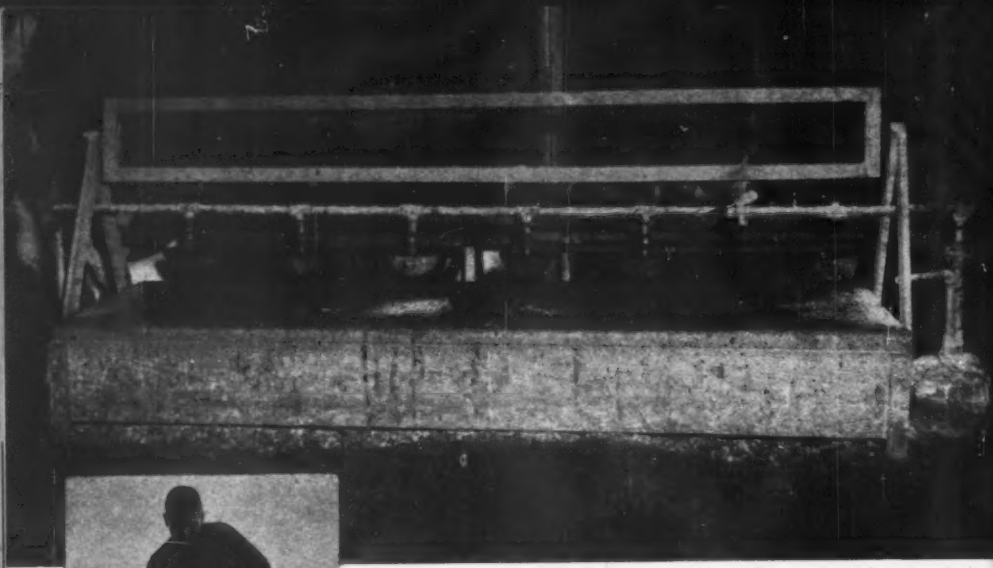
When making the drawers, cut all the fronts first and check these on the chest itself. Any necessary slight trimming is best done before the drawers are assembled. When you know the fronts fit right, then it's easy to make the remaining drawer parts to exactly the right size. Drill holes through the center of each drawer for the brass pulls, but do not attach these until after finishing. [*Continued on page* 134]



DRAWER FRAMES and the top center frame are assembled, then fitted in.

GLUE AND SCREWS secure drawer frames which are butted against the sides (above, right).

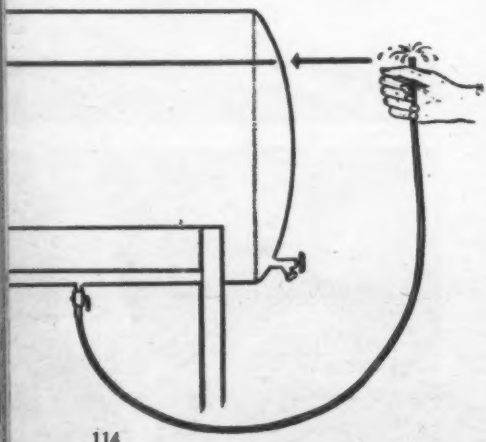
FEET are mitered and assembled with glue and corrugated fasteners, then screwed to the bottom.



MESH platform over drain tiles keeps floor dry near fountains in chicken house. SPIKES IN POST, left, protect a fence by making it easy for a hunter to cross.

THE FARMER'S PAGE

SIMPLE GAUGE shows level of fuel in a storage tank; hose is held above level of tank and slowly lowered until flow starts.



BRAKE DRUMS from trucks make good animal feeders; they're too low and heavy to be tipped over and need little attention.

FRESH PAINT TIPS

Dutch Boy Paint, Nat'l Lead Co., 111 Broadway, New York 6, N. Y.

NEW OIL-BASE paint has unusual property—the brush can be cleaned with turps or with soap and water.

PAINT MIXER fits any power drill; a second fitting cleans brushes by centrifugal force. Both items, $2.98.

Explorer Prod., Inc., P.O. Box 1958, Opa-Locka, Fla.

Royal-T Prod. Co., 811 Wyandotte St.
Kansas City 5, Missouri.

PAINT APPLICATOR with roller and paint reservoir can cover a wall without re-dipping. $2.98.

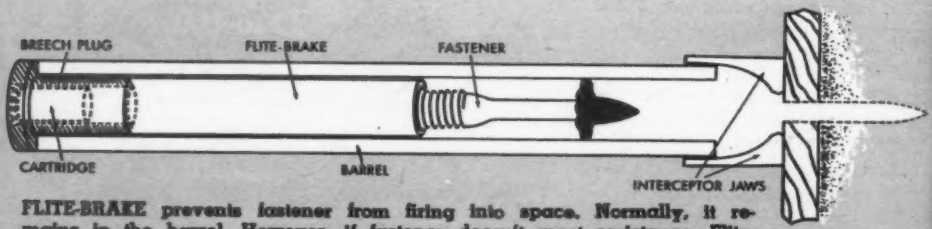
Wooster Brush Co., Wooster, Ohio.

DISPOSABLE paint roller fits all standard 7-in. handles, does away with messy clean-up jobs.

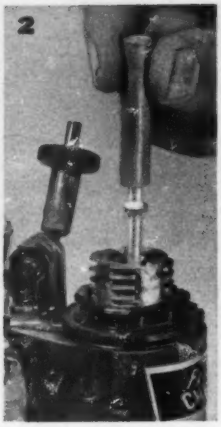
NEW TOOLS DRIVE NAILS INTO CONCRETE

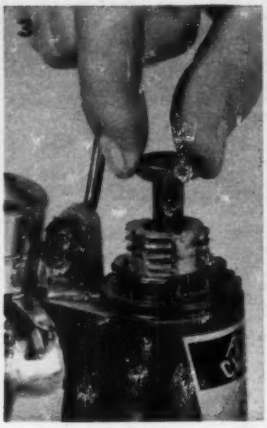
FLITE-CHEK powder-actuated tool is opened for loading by a ⅛th counterclockwise turn of handle.

TWO new tools make it easy for a home craftsman to drive specially hardened nails and studs into wood, thin steel, cinder block or concrete. In one, the Flite-Chek Jobmaster, a powder charge propels the fastener. Designed so that the fastener can't be ejected if the tool isn't perpendicular to a surface or if no solid resistance is met, this tool is sold or rented at hardware supply houses. The other tool is called Shure-Set and sells for $7.95. With it, a 2½-lb. hammer is used to drive the fastener. •

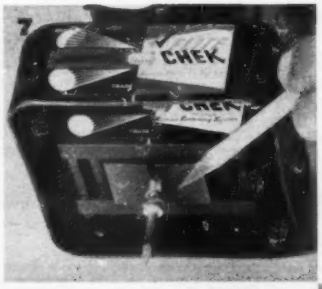


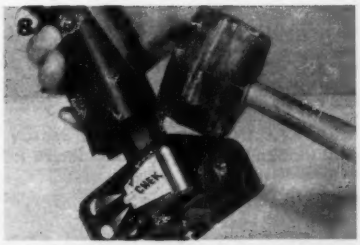
FLITE-BRAKE prevents fastener from firing into space. Normally, it remains in the barrel. However, if fastener doesn't meet resistance, Flite-Brake enters tapered area of jaws and is squeezed onto fastener threads.

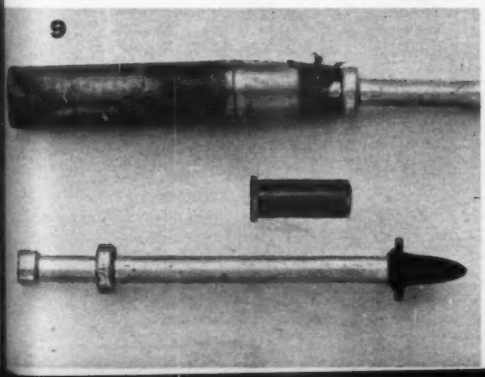


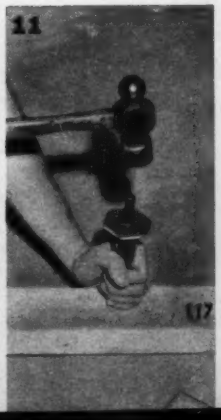


FASTENER goes into barrel (1) and the Flite-Brake is slipped over it (2). Next, breech plug is inserted (3) and cartridge follows (4). If indicator appears (5) the tool isn't perpendicular and cannot fire. Breech plug is slipped over extractor (6) to remove a spent cartridge. Interceptor jaws grip Flite-Brake if firing is faulty (7) and tap releases them (8). Improperly fired fastener is held by Flite-Brake (9). Fastener is inserted in end of Shure-Set tool (10) and driven by solid blows to secure plate (11).









MAGNETS AROUND THE HOUSE

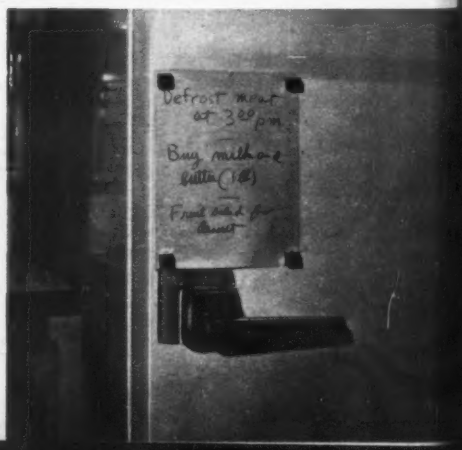
IRON hardware is easily separated from aluminum, brass or copper with a magnet.

TEST hardware that appears to be brass: attraction means it's iron and will rust.

MEMO on refrigerator door hardly can be overlooked; small magnets leave no marks.

A COLLECTION of small Alnico magnets is a definite asset around the home or shop. An alloy of aluminum, nickel and cobalt, the initial letters of which give the name, Alnico is many times more powerful by weight than the old-fashioned horseshoe magnets of common steel.

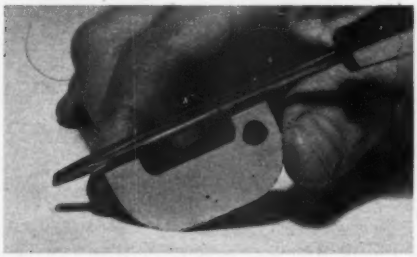
Available in many sizes and shapes,



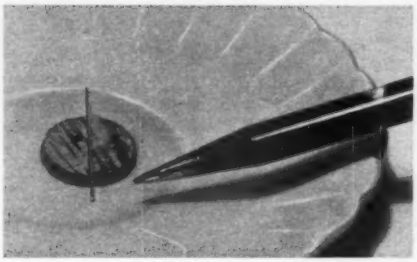
Powerful Alnico magnets make low-cost implements and toys.

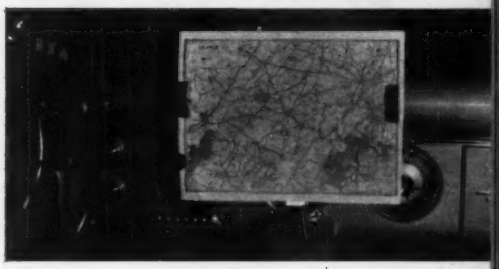
By Robert Hertzberg

SCREW DRIVER is easily magnetized when rubbed in only one direction with magnet.



MAGNETIZED screw driver can be used to pick up screws and other small hardware.





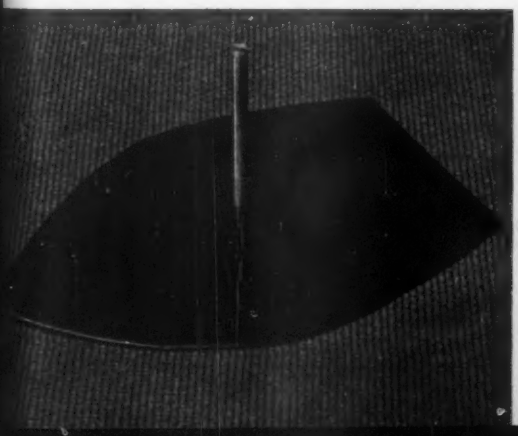
the most useful Alnicos are U-shaped and range from three-quarters of an inch to two inches across. Small cylinders up to a half-inch long are suitable only for light holding purposes since a pull can be exerted by only one end.

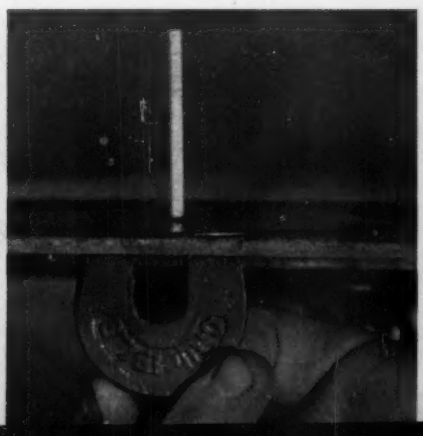
The illustrations show some interesting applications of magnets and many others will suggest themselves. •

NEEDLE, magnetized and laid on floating cork disk, becomes a north-south compass.

WHEN DRIVING, map can be stuck to the dashboard, leaving both hands for wheel.

TOY BOAT mystifies and amuses children for hours; cut from thin sheet iron, it's moved on table or board by magnet beneath.



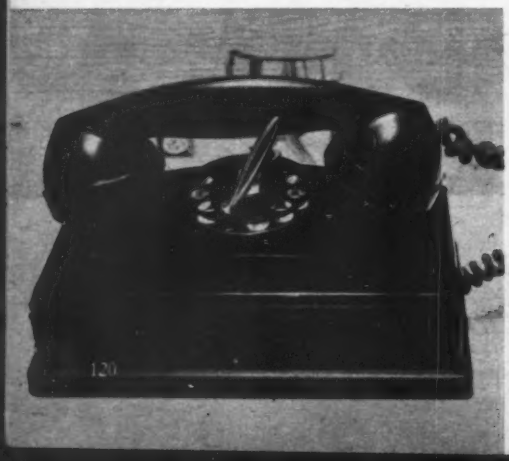


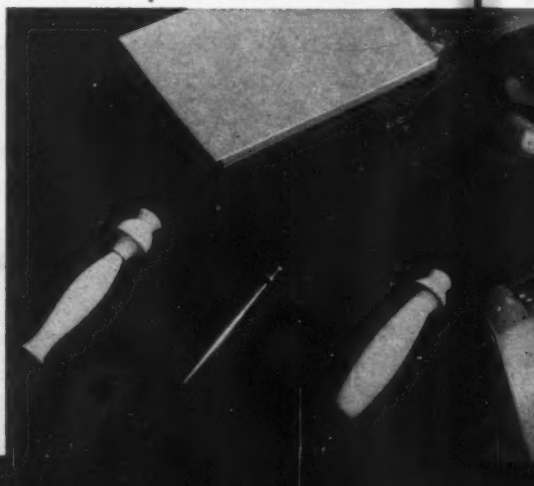
Make It...

TELEPHONE DIALER

REVERSE TAPER of dialer allows it to rest easily in dial when not being used.

THESE DIALERS of varying designs were all made from plans illustrated at right.





HERE'S a fingernail-saving gadget that will be as helpful to the telephoning executive as it will be appreciated by every manicure-conscious housewife and secretary.

Making a telephone dialer is a one-evening project that requires a lathe and a set of turning tools. The dialer can be turned either from nonferrous metals, such as aluminum, copper or brass, or from any fine-grained hardwood.

Your first step will be to make a full-size reverse profile template from one of the designs in the diagram at right. This will be used as a check pattern when you're doing the turning.

There is nothing to prevent you from modifying the finger grip portion of the dialer to suit yourself, but the dimensions of the dialing end should be reproduced exactly.

You will notice that the reverse taper of the dialer allows it to be moved quickly from hole to hole. It also prevents its scraping the dial base and lets it hook to the phone when not in use.

Be sure to complete the turning and polishing of the dialer before cutting it off. Then only the ends will remain to be touched up by hand with sandpaper or emery cloth.

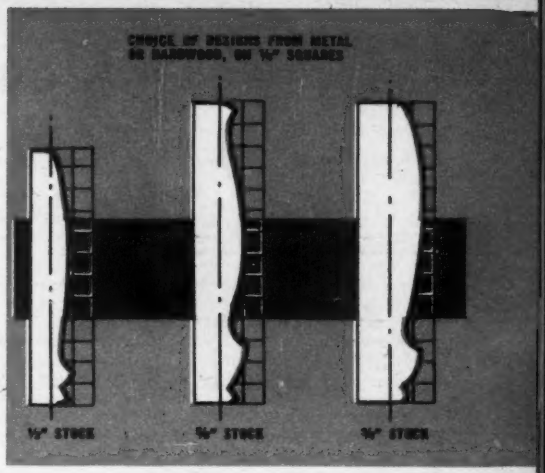
When working with metal, the job may be speeded by using files to help form the basic shape of the dialer; the final shaping is done with carbide tipped tools.

To finish, work down through progressively finer grits of emery cloth (or sandpaper, if you're working with wood) until it is smooth enough to apply a fine grade of steel wool.

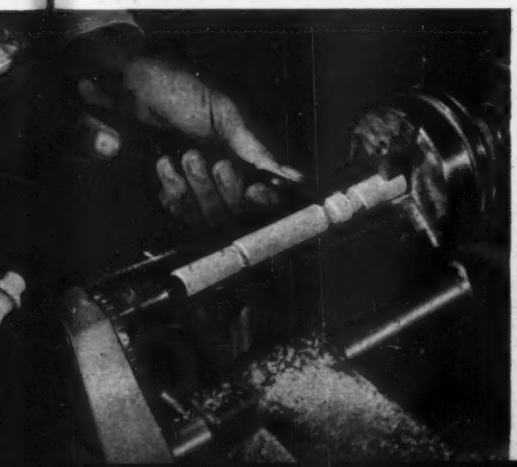
Use red jeweler's rouge and a buffing wheel to bring the metal up to its shiny best. Then spray on a thin coat of clear lacquer; this will help preserve and maintain the finish.

A telephone dialer is a rather small gadget and hence may occasionally be misplaced. You can solve this problem by drilling a small hole through the end of the handle and threading it with a length of ordinary key chain. Attach the other end of the chain to wall, desk or phone and your dialer will always be ready for use when needed.

—*R. J. DeCristoforo* •



HARDWOOD STOCK is quickly shaped to dialer contours on any fast-turning lathe.

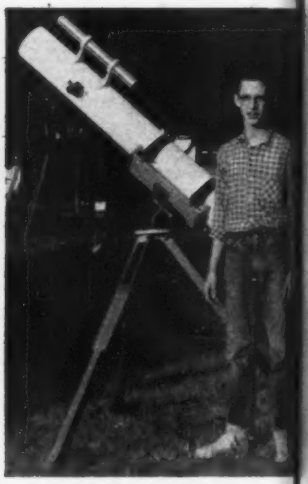


CHUCK GRIPS ½-inch brass stock to form dialer shown in photograph (upper left).

Golden Hammer Award Winners

Each craftsman whose project is shown receives a 24-karat gold-plated Hammer and a Workbench Award Certificate. Runners-up will be sent a beautiful gold-plated Golden Hammer Tie Bar or MI's Certificate of Merit. How about sending us a *black-and-white* photo and *full* description of your latest project? Photos of you and your workshop are also eligible. Send all entries, with return postage enclosed, to MECHANIX ILLUSTRATED Golden Hammer Awards, 67 West 44th St., New York 36, N. Y. This month's Golden Hammer Winners have been selected from craftsmen who recently won top prizes in the nationwide Constantine Woodworking Awards Contest held to encourage woodworking hobbies.

BAR-B-QUE and patio were constructed by George Robertson, Phoenix, Ariz.—from his wheelchair! Note portable broiler.



TELESCOPE, built by Dennis Christenson of Cedar Rapids, Ia., has a 6-in. mirror, a 6-ft. tube, 108-power lens.

The following craftsmen have been awarded GOLDEN HAMMER TIE BARS for their projects: Ray O. Dare, Torrance, Calif.; Truls Nygaard, Norway, Europe; K. H. Kerns, Marion, Ohio; Wm. P. Wise, Bellevue, Ohio; John W. Sparks, Cincinnati, Ohio; Dewey M. Bagley, Jr., Van Nuys, Calif.; Roger G. Skillestad, Pekin, Ill.; Richard Stolzenfels, Bakersfield, Calif.; Blaine Sagers, Dubuque, Ia.; Fred C. Stebbins, Kansas City, Mo.; A. D. Criss, W. Hollywood, Fla.; Herbert Frankle, Springfield Gardens, N. Y.; E. J. Kilzer, Billings, Mont.; Robert Begin, Aruba, Netherlands Antilles; Edgar Reed, Shrewsbury, Mass.; Howard F. Lind, Medford, Ore.; John H. De Boe, Ketchikan, Alaska; R. M. Airis, Appleton, Wisc.; Ensel Klein, Mola, Okla.; Wilbur Reeves, Hollywood, Fla.; C. M. Wolfe, Black Mountain, N. C.; James A. Salzman, Appleton, Wisc.; Kenneth M. Fetters, [Continued on page 134]

MODEL is replica of Capt. Blood's ship. John Oakes, Minerva, N. Y., built her in 18 months. She's 15 in. long, has 44 guns.

HI-FI SET of African mahogany has 9-cu. ft. speaker compartment. It was custom-crafted by Errol Prince of Milwaukee, Wis.

WORKING MODELS of a steam engine and thresher show the meticulous craftsmanship of John A. Neumann, Wood Lake, Minn.

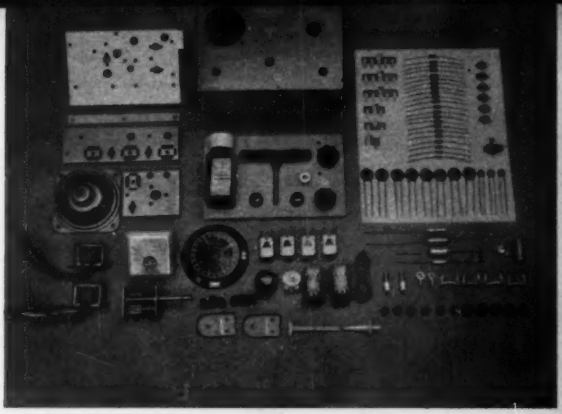
TRACTOR was built from a Crosley car by Le Roy Christ, Villa Park, Ill. Rear wheels are from a Ford. Total cost less than $80.

FISHERMAN, an 11½-ft. outboard, was built in 2 months from MI plans (slightly modified) by José Sixto, Salto, Uruguay.

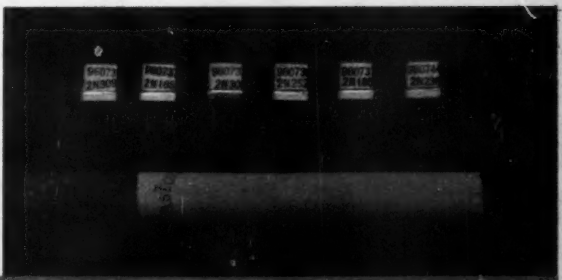
RADIO AND

By John Michaels

EVEN if you never take your boat out of sight of land, there's a good chance of being enveloped in fog in a matter of minutes. That's when you can really appreciate the feeling of security a radio direction finder gives. Or how about a trip along the coast on which you're playing it by eye? After a while your judgment begins to fail and the next point doesn't look anything like the one it's supposed to be and your gas is running low. Then it's a great thing to be able to pinpoint your position and make a straight run for the nearest refueling station. Well, for $49.95, you can buy and assemble a kit which will



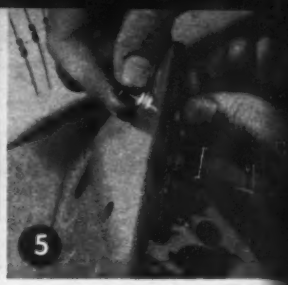
SIMPLICITY of set is revealed in parts layout; novice should have no difficulty.

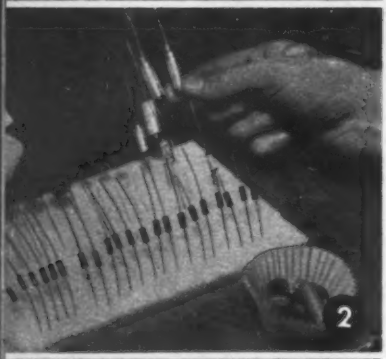


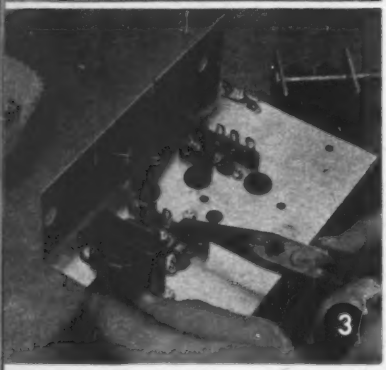
COMPACTNESS is achieved by use of six transistors shown compared to a cigarette.

DIRECTION FINDER

SCHEMATIC
TRANSISTOR RADIO DIRECTION FINDER







ASSEMBLY is facilitated by wire stripping and cutting tool (1); resistors and capacitors are set up for selection in corrugated cardboard or a styrofoam sheet (2); leads are crimped to lugs with needle-nose pliers before soldering (3); steps are checked off in instructions (4); on-off and volume control is installed (5).

save you a lot of worry and inconvenience—and perhaps your life.

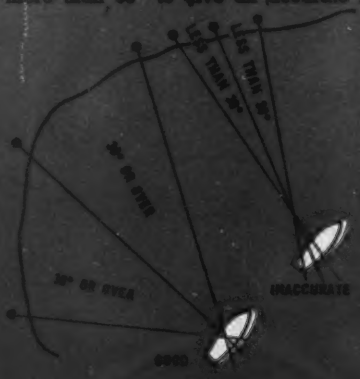
The Heathkit Transistor Radio Direction Finder, Model DF-1, weighs only three and a half pounds, contains six transistors in a superheterodyne circuit and is powered by a miniature nine-volt battery. Aside from its use as a radio compass, the set receives the broadcast band and serves as a fixed or portable radio. Using a directional loop, it will pinpoint any station within range and allow you to plot the bearings of two or three stations on a chart, indicating your exact position.

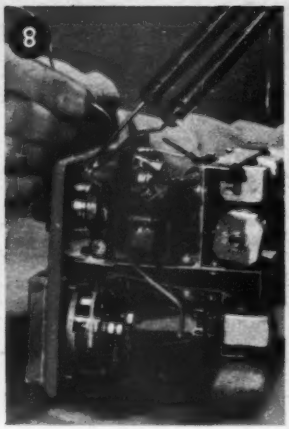
Well-designed, the set is easily assembled by following step-by-step instructions furnished with the kit. The tools required are a needle-nose pliers, small and regular screw drivers, wire strippers and a soldering gun or pencil (60-100 watts). Also, a coil of rosin core solder is needed.

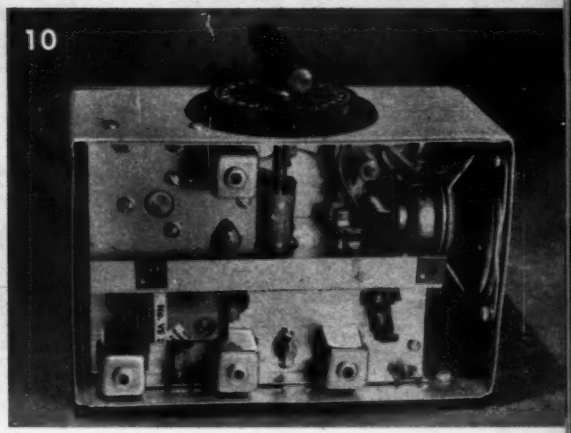
The most important part to remember in assembling this or any radio is to employ good soldering technique. About 95 per cent of all failures in radio work may be [*Continued on page* 140]

Position of a boat in Lake Michigan is plotted from three known radio stations.

The angle between each station should be more than 30° to give an accurate fix.

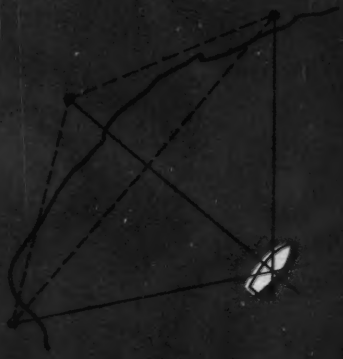






NULL AND TUNING INDICATOR (6) has a molded plastic face and large, easy-to-read calibrations; spring clips (7) are provided to hold IF transformers firmly in place; soldering technique (8) is an important factor which is explained in the text. Completed set (9) is compact, sturdy and attractive, covers broadcast band from 540 to 1620 kilocycles; rear view (10) shows the single 9-volt battery which powers the set; clip for spare is at right.

within triangle formed by three stations. falls outside the three-station triangle.



CAR CARE

CAN YOU STOP IN *TIME?*

By Frederick C. Russell

Member, Society of Automotive Engineers

SURE-FOOTED panic stop by Buick after heavy braking on downgrade. Ribbed aluminum drums dissipate heat, minimize fade.

IN this age of high-speed cars, good brake design is more important than ever. The faster you go, the faster you must be able to stop—and stop repeatedly with brakes that will stand up to the rigors of friction and heat. Detroit metallurgists and engineers have joined forces to meet this need.

Let's take a look at some of the latest improvements in braking. In 1958, Buick introduced its award-winning aluminum front brake drum which provides smoother stopping power and longer service. Now, the finned design of this brake has been incorporated in the rear drums of the current crop of Buicks. The fins create air turbulence for better cooling—an important factor.

For 1959, some cars feature double-enveloping seals on brake drums to protect the lining against road spray and other foreign matter. At the speeds cars now hit puddles, ordinary sealing may not do—a good reason to hold your foot lightly on the brake pedal when passing

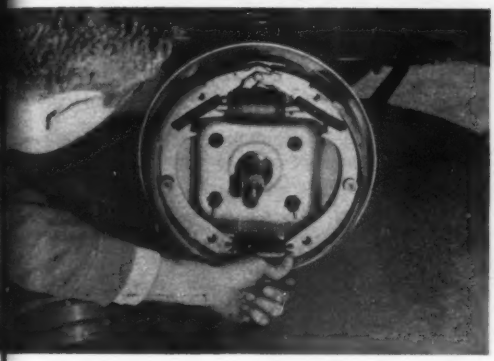
KEEP DIRT out of master brake cylinder. Before removing the plug, clean around it.

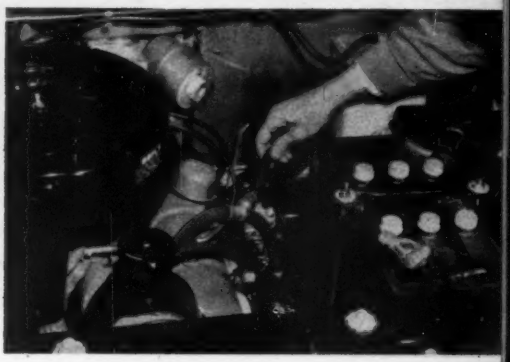
SIMPLE TEST to tell if power booster is working properly is explained in the text.

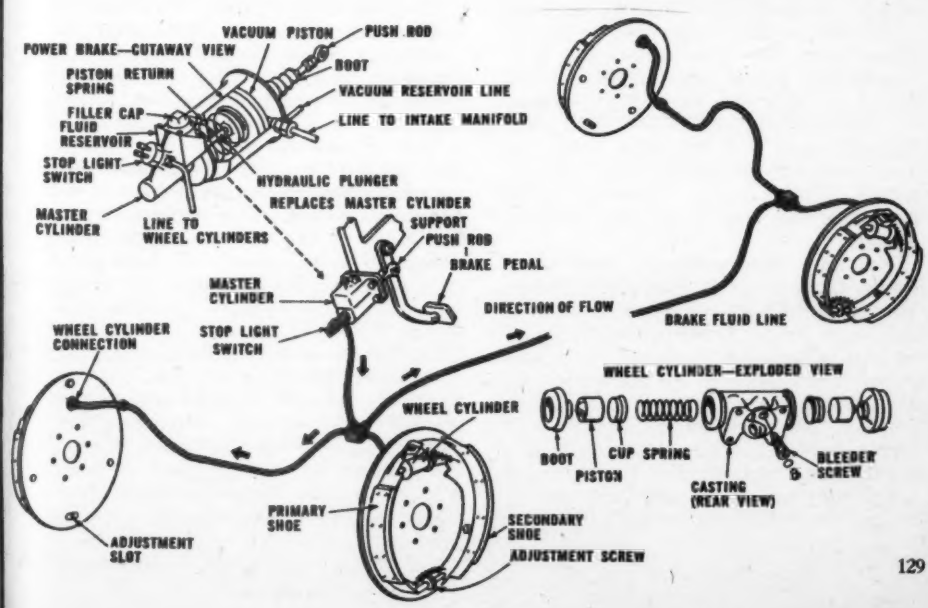
POUR brake fluid into water to test for harmful oil; it will form separate layer.

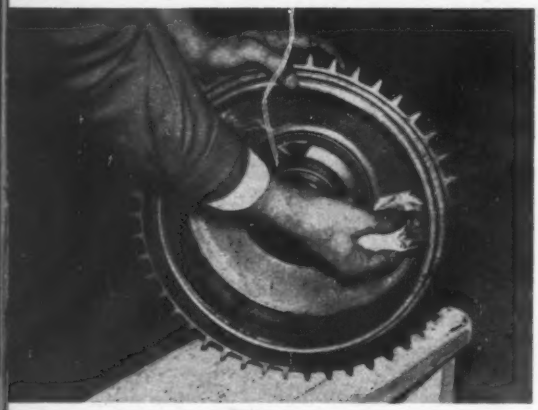
COCKED SHOE is a source of trouble in hydraulic brakes; check mechanical parts.

VACUUM HOSE may have collapsed if you experience hard pedal with power braking.









LOOSE front-wheel **bearings**, top left, are common cause of brake shoe vibration or noise.

WEAK retractor springs, top right, can be another cause of noisy vibration in brake shoes.

CLEAN all dust and dirt from lining of brake drum, left, to get the maximum in efficiency.

through a flooded section of roadway.

One of the trends that will be talked about most this year is the new low-profile tire. Engineers of the United States Rubber Company have cooked up an extra wide tire. Mounted on a 15-inch wheel it is the same height as a conventional tubeless tire on a 14-inch wheel. This permits a return to the better brake cooling of the 15-inch wheel.

Not only does excessive heat warp brake drums but it chars the lining. This explains why it is sometimes difficult to get proper braking after the most careful adjustment of shoes. One way to help solve this is to use thicker lining, as is being done currently. This also helps to head off brake noise. Don't forget, however, that noise usually is a warning to recheck the brake shoes which may not be properly adjusted or concentric with their drums.

Chrysler Corporation's Total Contact brakes represent a marked improvement over conventional brakes in that the shoes have the ability to match distortion of the drums during hard usage. Shoes we have known before have had a web of constant depth from heel to toe. In the Chrysler arrangement, the web is contoured so that the toe is not as wide as the heel. This permits greater flexibility of the shoe to match drum deflection at any point. No high pressure at either toe or heel is needed as would be required with a conventional design if the drums became more oval than the shoes during heavy braking.

Another feature of total contact brakes is the use of full-floating shoes instead of ones with fixed anchors. Special plates align the shoes, holding the anchors as well as the individual wheel cylinders. Since the forces from the piston and brake shoe return springs

are in a center plane, the shoes are prevented from twisting, thus giving them more even contact. There also are guides for controlling side movement of the shoes, maintaining constant pressure against the web. By this arrangement Chrysler engineers also provide for self-energizing action of all front brake shoes as well as the rear brake front shoes when the car is being stopped while traveling forward. There's self-energizing action of the rear shoe of each rear brake when the car is being stopped while traveling in reverse.

Note especially that the major improvements in braking cover the strictly mechanical parts of the system. It's a tip to all of us to pay more attention to shoe action and drum condition rather than to assume that because we have hydraulic brakes we merely have to guard against fluid leakage.

In the hydraulic department there is a need to use heavy-duty brake fluid. It can be had in a quality able to withstand 400° heat. Many a system fails completely when braking is excessive in hot weather just because inferior fluid vaporizes. The effect is like having no fluid in the lines. Brake fluid can become contaminated, too, causing piston cups to swell and deteriorate. The test is to note if a sample of fluid in a glass bottle separates into two distinct layers. If so, this means there is mineral oil in it. Next add water and shake up the mixture. Milky appearance is then added proof of oil content.

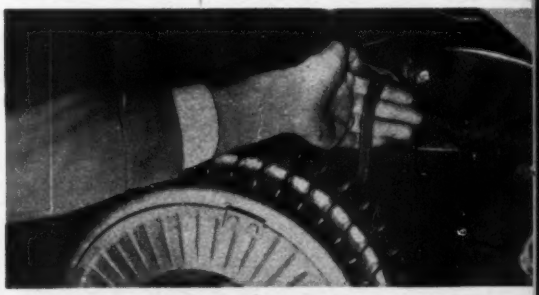
Cleanliness is vital in the hydraulic department. Never remove the filler plug without first wiping it clean and be careful that no foreign matter falls into the reservoir when the plug is removed. Check its vent hole occasionally; if clogged, it will allow pressure to build up in the system, causing the brakes to apply themselves. Trouble with the internal relief port often is due to contaminated fluid or dirt. In rebuilding the master cylinder, clean it with alcohol, dry it with air pressure and then flush it with fresh brake fluid.

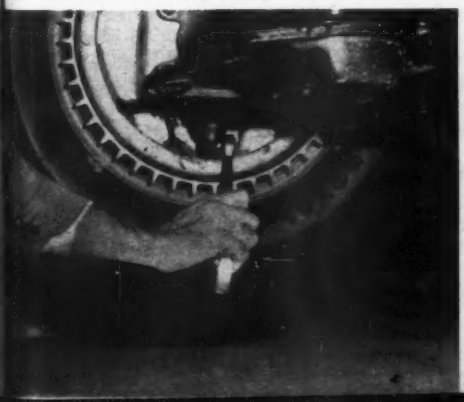
Finally, there is the power department. There's a simple test to determine if the boosting system is working. Switch off the engine and depress the pedal several times. This will remove all vacuum from the system. Now press on the brake [*Continued on page* 142]

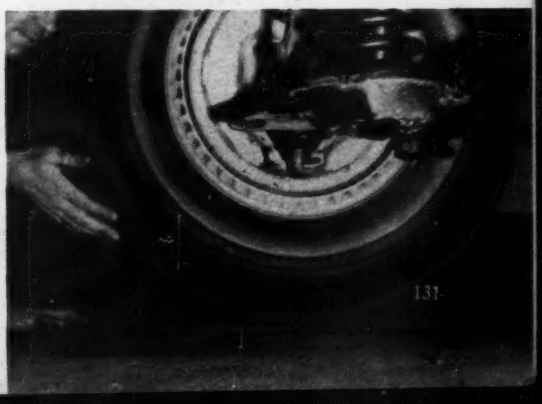
LEAKAGE in hydraulic line, right, is a source of trouble; make this another check point.

ADJUST BRAKE by tightening the notched wheel, below, and then backing off two notches.

JACK UP the car and spin the wheel, lower right, to be sure reassembled brake doesn't drag.

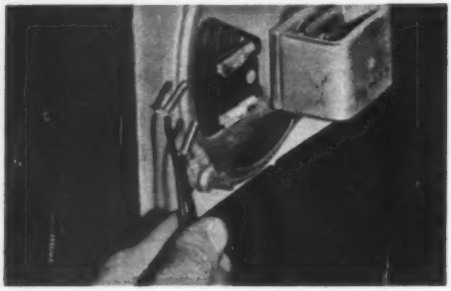






Hi-Fi Out Of Your TV Set

[*Continued from page* 99]

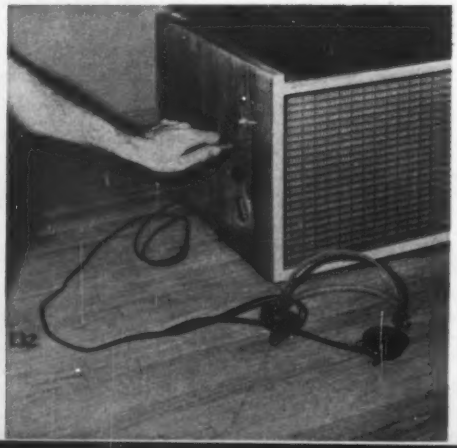


AMPLIFIER LEADS are disconnected from TV speaker. Use removable plugs for connections.

The banana plugs and jacks at the rear of the cabinet are connected with lamp cord to the amplifier output leads in your TV set. Remember to disconnect the two leads from the TV speaker.

The induction plate enables hard-of-hearing persons to sit at a comfortable distance from the TV set without having to turn up the volume full blast. An on/off switch is included in the earphone circuit so that the loud-speakers can be cut out when the earphones are being used. These earphones will really be appreciated when you want to watch the late show while the children are asleep. And you can enjoy peace and quiet during the day if your youngster uses them when watching noisy westerns or cartoons. •

EARPHONE JACK permits private listening; now flick switch to silence loud-speakers.



Measuring Devices

[*Continued from page* 103]

the blade; the shorter, narrower 14- to 18-inch arm is called the tongue. This square is marked in graduations of eighths and hundredths of an inch and also carries the markings of a rafter or framing table, Essex board-measure table, and brace table. The framing square also serves as an excellent straight edge.

The try square is a thin steel blade set at right angles to a wood or steel stock. The blade may vary from two to 12 inches and the stock from four to eight inches. There is also an adjustable try-square with a miter and level as well as a movable blade which can be locked at any point along the stock. Try-squares are used as guides when marking across lumber, as straight edges to check ends and sides, and as squares to check jointed angles.

The bevel square or T-bevel consists of a steel blade six to 12 inches long with a 45° bevel point at one end. The opposite end fits into a slotted wooden beam and is held in place by a thumbscrew. The long slot in the beam permits the blade to be set at any angle. This square is used for laying out angles other than right angles and for transferring angles from one piece of stock to another.

The marking gauge is a tool for drawing guide lines parallel to an edge. It is a metal or wooden strip (beam) six to eight inches in length, marked with inch graduations, on which a block of wood or metal slides. From the beam projects a small marking point called the spur. The head can be locked in place at any point along the beam by means of a thumbscrew.

Wing dividers, compasses and scribes are names for the same tool. It consists of two hinged, pointed legs, an angle indicator and a setscrew. This tool is used to scribe circles, measure angles, thicknesses and distances and to transfer measurements from one piece of stock to another. Take care not to drop it or dull its points. While dulled or bent points can be sharpened with a file, both points must be kept exactly the same length.

Measuring instruments are not intended for hammering or prying. Treat your instruments with care and they will return your consideration in *full measure.*

—*Rolfe Schell & Dick Howe*

HOW AMERICA'S NUMBER ONE CARBURETOR PUTS A TOUCH OF TOMORROW IN YOUR CAR!

• Dynamometer tests determine the effect of carburetion on maximum power output of a GM car engine. Carburetor design is matched to the specific requirements of each GM engine.

Every Rochester-GM Carburetor is a result of engineering dreams that are originated, researched and developed right here at Rochester. Backed by GM's Technical Center, engineers are now busy with tomorrow's fueling systems. And they are constantly developing new advances for today's Rochester-GM Carburetor. America's number one carburetor is serviced everywhere by Rochester-GM Carburetor specialists with the skill and knowledge passed along by these engineering masters. Let them adjust and maintain your Rochester-GM Carburetor for the best possible performance and economy. *Rochester Products Division of General Motors, Rochester, New York.*

• In the Research Fuel House at GM's Tech Center, seventeen different fuels are tested for operational effects. Result: carburetors designed to get better performance, stricter economy.

• At the Proving Grounds, these carburetors are given thousands of tortuous miles to test their ability to withstand extreme driving situations. Longer, trouble-free service is passed on to you.

• Millions of miles of stop-and-go traffic are put on these carburetors to assure you of the best possible mileage and performance from your GM car.

GM
GENERAL MOTORS

America's number one original equipment carburetors

ROCHESTER CARBURETORS

Golden Hammer Awards

[*Continued from page* 122]

Ann Arbor, Mich.; W. Kenneth Greene, Roulette, Pa.; Maurice B. Madden, Carlinville, Ill.; Andy Klobeck, Des Moines, Ia.; Jacques Jodoin, Regina, Saskatchewan; Ernest C. Rasmussen, Racine, Wisc.; Henry Foy, Edmonton, Alberta; Kenneth Kitson, Cleveland, Ohio; Wally Chapman, Schaghticoke, N. Y.; Marion E. Konopacki, Gary, Ind.; Charles Shay, Rochester, N. Y.; Walter Glogoski, Conneaut, Ohio; R. C. Hosken, Louisville, Ky.; John G. Roth, Altoona, Pa.; Leland W. Martin, Spokane, Wash.; Robert Nelson, New Market, N. J.; L. E. Dunkin, Gold Beach, Ore.; Richard R. Krebs, St. Louis, Mo.; R. E. Dunn, St. Paul, Minn.; C. A. Gielish, Los Angeles, Calif.; A. Kaplan, Malden, Mass.; Philip H. Schneider, Cleveland, Ohio; Elbert T. Poff, Mullens, W. Va.; Willis E. Miller, Hayti, Mo.; Robert L. Clark, Winchester, Ind.; William Elahaltz, Elgin, Ill.; Calvin Picone, St. Michael, Ariz.; Joseph Mangano, Chicago, Ill.

The following craftsmen have been awarded CERTIFICATES OF MERIT for their projects:

William J. Yatsko, Pittsburgh, Pa.; Robert Raczka, Chicago, Ill.; R. S. Rogers, Inglewood, Calif.; Richard J. Novak, Danbury, Conn.; Jerry Snowden, Hollidaysburg, Pa.; John Marengo, Boylston, Mass.; James L. Thompson, Ft. Walton Beach, Fla.; Donald R. Wolfe, Mahoning, Pa.; Robert Gould, Pewaukee, Wisc.; James P. Sullivan, Newport, R. I.; Philip Sancarter, Renfrew, Ont.; Harold Rampin, Denmark, Md.; Konrad K. Kallio, Astoria, Ore.; M. Russell Sheets, Jr., Poland, Ohio; Charles Dupuis, Bellevue, Wash.; Vincent Poutenis, Shirley, Mass.; Paul L. Stoner, Jr., Mount Joy, Pa.; M. F. Plummer, Hollidaysburg, Pa.; J. F. Pieri, Winnipeg, Canada; Frank Giordano, Massapequa, L. I., N. Y.; F. W. Wilkerson, Mineral Wells, Tex.; Joseph Romero, Albuquerque, N. M.; Ronald Aigner, Kohler, Wisc.; H. L. Spohn, Culver, Kan.; George A. Giguere, Bridgeport, Conn.; H. E. Mackie, Neepawaman, Canada; Richard C. Kraemer, New York, N. Y.; Walter C. Wronski, Opa-Locka, Fla.; George Ardwin, Detroit, Mich.; Charles R. Shaw, Des Moines, Ia.; Richard L. Riley, Waco, Tex.; Steve Asdourian, Detroit, Mich.; Charles Hunt, Tulsa, Okla.; H. S. DeLong, Merrimac, Mass.; Forrest Heflick, South Bend, Ind.; Eugene Krebs, Short Hills, N. J.; Roy G. Elliot, Silverton, Ohio; Paul Habighorst, Maspeth, L. I., N. Y.; Robert Sterling, Toledo, Ohio; G. Springer Crawford, Waynesville, Ohio; Peter Fopplario, New Haven, Conn.; Michael J. Hamernik, Bristol, Conn.; Robert Spikes, Berkeley, Calif.; Joseph Tanaszi, Millbury, Ohio; Roland Martin, Quebec, Canada; Donald G. Munn, Waynesville, Mont.; Valmont Fortin, Quebec, Canada; Thomas R. Martin, DCC USN, FPO N. Y.; Roy Erickson, Cochituate, Mass.; Paul Kitzmann, El Cajon, Calif.; Charles E. Lyons, Manchester, Conn.; James C. Robinson, East McKeesport, Pa.; Joseph N. Thaller, Niantic, Conn.; Claude L. Chamberlin, Moses Lake, Wisc.; Paul H. Ketcherside, Farmington, Mo.; Leonard Sripp, Ontario, Canada; Susan Sibille, Sunset, La.; Arnold E. Hausner, Lincoln, Neb.; George C. Donahue, Middleton, R. I.; John Hinko, Indiana, Pa.; Hyman I. Soloman, Bellerose, N. Y.; Tony Hutchison, Ponca City, Okla.; Glen R. Fornwalt, Lancaster, Pa.; Wayne Pressler, Castalia, Ohio; Reade D. Crossland, Hyattsville, Md.; Daniel Stern, Brooklyn, N. Y.; David A. Wilding, Lorain, Ohio.

Watch for names of more winners next month.

Early American Chest

[*Continued from page* 113]

Finishing

Before finishing, be sure all edges and surfaces are sanded as smooth as possible. Do this by working down through progressively finer grits of sandpaper, ending by rubbing lightly with very fine steel wool. Pay particular attention to all edges and be sure that the front edges on all drawer fronts are rounded off.

Dust the project carefully with a brush or soft cloth and then apply a wash coat of orange shellac. Prepare the wash coat by diluting the shellac you buy with 50% alcohol. Apply it with a brush. When it is perfectly dry to the touch, smooth it down with steel wool. Don't rub hard! You don't want to remove the shellac, just smooth it. How many coats of shellac you apply is really up to you, but a durable and attractive surface will need at least 4 or 5 wash coats. Be sure each coat is dry before doing another and rub with steel wool between coats.

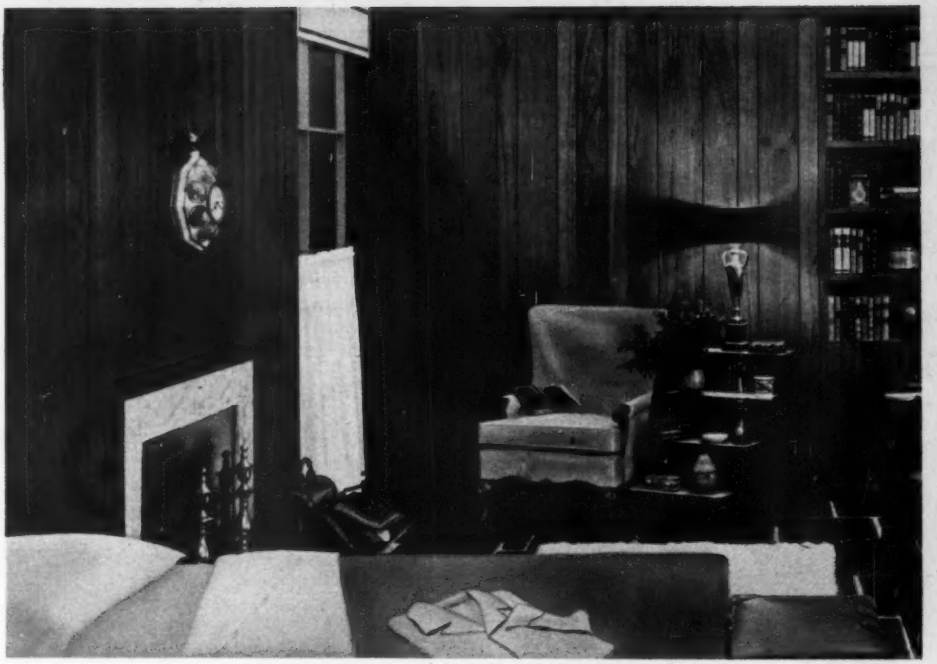
The last step is to apply paste wax. Do it liberally and let it dry thoroughly. Then polish the piece to a smooth and lustrous tone. •

BILL OF MATERIALS

PART NO.	USE	PIECES	SIZE	MATERIAL
1	Side	2	¾"x17"x39"	Pine
2	Top	1	¾"x17"x48¼"	"
3	Top Shelf	1	¾"x6"x48¼"	"
4	Top Back	1	¾"x5¾"x48¼"	"
5-6	Frame	2	¾"x3"x48¼"	"
	"	2	¾"x2"x48¼"	"
	"	6	¾"x2"x16¾"	"
7	Lower Center	2	¾"x2"x9"	"
	Frame	2	¾"x2"x16"	"
8	Upper Center	2	¾"x2"x20"	"
	Frame	2	¾"x2"x15"	"
9	Feet	4	¾"x2¾"x12"	"
10	Feet	4	¾"x2¾"x4"	"
11	Drawer Guides	10	¾"x1½"x15"	Maple
12	Dust Panel	1	½"x33¼"x48¼"	Fir Ply
13	Drawer Frames	6	¾"x2"x47½"	Pine
		6	¾"x2"x13"	"
		3	¾"x2"x9"	"
	Drawer Front	8	¾"x5"x23¼"	"
	Drawer Side	16	½"x5"x14"	Fir Ply
	Drawer Bottom	8	¼"x14"x22¾"	Masonite
	Drawer Back	8	½"x5"x22¼"	Fir Ply
	Drawer Guide	8	¾"x1½"x14"	Maple
	Drawer Front	2	¾"x9"x23½"	Pine
	Drawer Side	4	½"x9"x15"	Fir Ply
	Drawer Bottom	2	¼"x15"x22¾"	Masonite
	Drawer Back	2	½"x9"x22¼"	Fir Ply
	Drawer Guide	2	¾"x1½"x15"	Maple

When answering advertisements please mention

MECHANIX ILLUSTRATED



Paneling in random-plank style is 4' x 8' Weldwood Prefinished Walnut V-Plank®.

You can panel a room like this in a weekend . . .

Weldwood prefinished wood panels give you ready-made beauty—save time and fuss—as little as $75 for a 12' x 8' wall.

You can panel a lovely room like this in a weekend even with no previous experience. Weldwood *prefinished* wood panels come in a wide range of choice woods, prefinished and ready to brighten your home. Weldwood's exclusive 14-step lacquer process produces a true fine furniture finish so luxurious you can actually feel the difference. Saves you time and fuss in installing, too. What's more, it's a stain- and smear-resistant finish that's easy to keep clean through the years.

If you prefer, you can buy Weldwood Paneling *unfinished* at lower cost. Use Weldwood Satinlac® Lightener as a first coat to prevent the darkening or "wet" look usual when new wood is finished. And for a lustrous, *hand-rubbed* look with half the effort use Weldwood Satinlac®. Protects wood and brings out its beauty. See the more than 70 types of finishes of Weldwood paneling at your Weldwood lumber dealer's or at any of our 115 offices in U. S. and Canada.

No nail holes mar your handsome wood panels when you use Weldwood Contact Cement. Gives a permanent bond to furring strips. No clamping is necessary.

WELDWOOD® PANELING

AND OTHER WELDWOOD PRODUCTS FOR HOME AND INDUSTRY.

SEND THIS COUPON TO GET DETAILS!

NEW PREFINISHED PANELING BOOK MI 1-59
United States Plywood Corporation
Box 61, New York 46, N. Y.

Please send me a copy of the new full-color folder, "Presenting Weldwood Prefinished Paneling for Fine Interiors," which beautifully illustrates in color the 14 Weldwood prefinished woods and gives complete installation details. I enclose 10¢.

Name.....

Street.....

City.....State.....

Monthly PHOTO Contest

Please put your name, address and picture-taking data on back of each print. Wrap with cardboard stiffeners and enclose a self-addressed stamped envelope or postage for return of unused photos. Prize-winning pictures are not returned. Judges are MI Editors. Duplicate prizes awarded in case of tie. Address entries to: *Mechanix Illustrated*, Photo Contest, 67 W. 44th St., N.Y.C. 36.

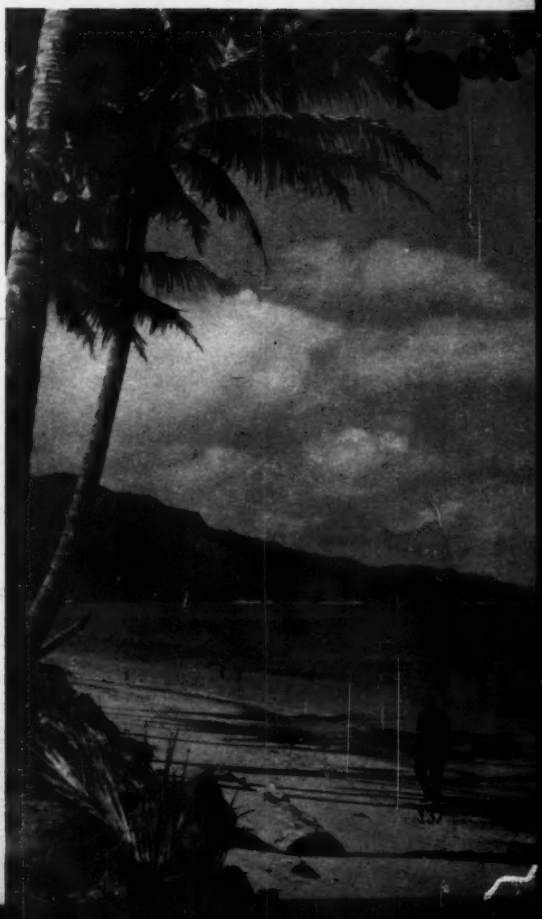
1st Prize ($25) SAUCERS IN SPACE

Fred Houk, Cleveland, coupled Ansco Speedex to microscope for photo of air bubbles in melted sugar. Light was 75-watt bulb; 5 minutes at f-4.5.

$10 Award .....PATTERN
Andre Varga, of Toulouse, France, used exposure of f-11 at 1/125th, had Kodak Verichrome Pan film in 2¼ x 2¼ roll film camera.

$10 Award .....PACIFIC
Using a Rollei and Super XX film, Roy Herrick, of Boise, Idaho, shot beach scene through light yellow filter; f-16, 1/100th.

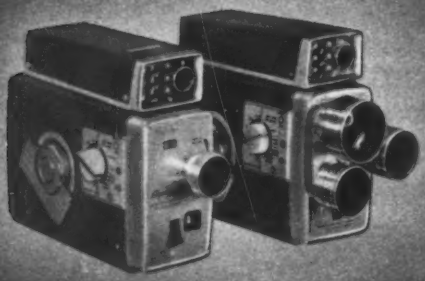
$10 Award....STUDY IN LIGHT
Photo below was taken with a Rollei by Bertram Griffin, Gormly, Ontario, Canada. His exposure was f-8 at 1/100th, film was Gavaert Gavapan 27.



Photography Today

By Robert Brightman

- *Brownie Scopesight Cameras*
- *Signet 80*
- *Speedy Film Drying*



TWO NEW 8mm movie cameras feature a built-in light meter coupled to lens diaphragm; three-lens turret model is at right.

EASTMAN'S LATEST, the Signet 80, a 35mm camera with interchangeable lenses; the shutter speeds range from ¼ to 1/250th.

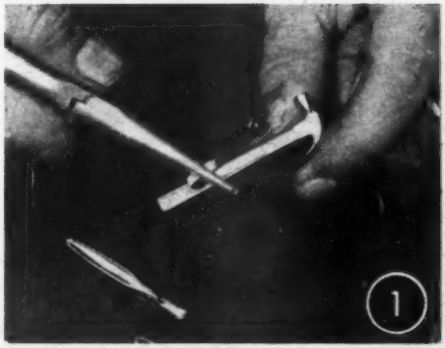
NEW cameras, new cars, new products! This is the season, it seems. Latest entry into the exposure-meter-coupled-to-diaphragm movie camera field is the Brownie Scopesight, an 8mm camera with an f-1.9 lens. A more elaborate model, a turret job that takes a 24mm telephoto and a 6.5mm wide angle converter lens (in addition to the standard 13mm lens), has a price tag of $99.50. The cameras are finished in gray and aluminum.

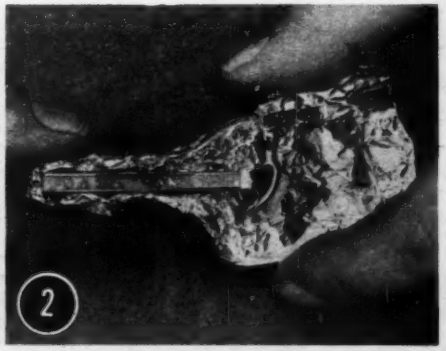
Eastman's camera—or Kodak's to be exact, as the name Eastman is generally reserved by the company for its line of professional [*Continued on page* 140]

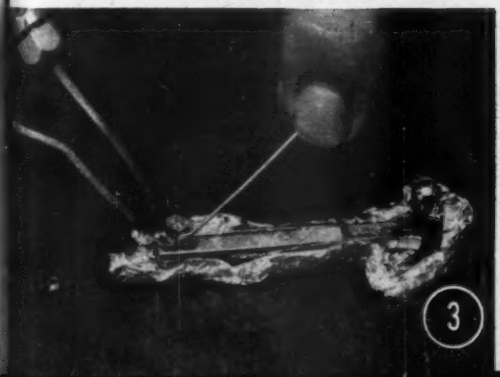
FILM DRYING is speeded up by a new product made by Yankee Photo Products. The film is immersed in the liquid for two minutes after final rinse and then squeegeed between viscose sponges as shown. Negatives are ready for printing within minutes.

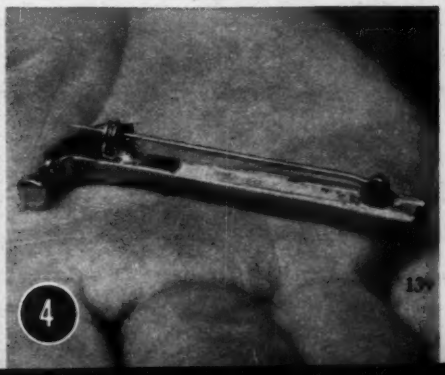
MI's TIE BAR BROOCH

BEEN awarded a Golden Hammer Tie Bar you'd like to convert to a brooch for your best gal? It's easy: (1) peel off the tie clip with needle-nose pliers; (2) mold aluminum foil around the hammer to dissipate heat rapidly when soldering and so protect the finish; (3) solder a two-piece pin back in place and (4) you have it. You can get pin backs at your local hobby shop or from Immerman's, 1020 Euclid Ave., Cleveland 15, Ohio. •









Radio-Direction Finder

[*Continued from page* 126]

attributed to poorly soldered joints. It's well for a novice to practice a bit before starting. All joints must be clean and wires crimped tight. Heat is applied to the joint until the terminal is hot enough to melt the solder. Then the solder is applied to the joint and the tip of the iron and allowed to flow over the joint. Only a rosin core solder should be used, preferably one designed specifically for radio work.

To use the set as a direction finder in a boat, the compass rose is set for the same heading as the vessel and a station is tuned in. The loop is then rotated for maximum meter indication and the bearing on the station is read directly from the compass rose. This procedure is repeated on two or more stations and each bearing is plotted on the chart in degrees. The point of intersection reveals your actual position.

To home in on a station, it is tuned in and the compass rose is set to the same heading as the vessel. Then the bearing control is rotated for maximum meter indication. The resulting bearing is read and the boat's course is changed to this heading. For best results the unit must not be operated in strong electric or magnetic fields, nor should it be used in the vicinity of large masses of metal. It should always be level when taking bearings and the compass rose should be set to the same heading as the boat's compass.

Apart from being a great asset on a boat, the radio direction finder is valuable to the hunter, hiker, camper, fisherman or aviator. No one can get lost if he's within range of a radio station—and he can listen to music as he wends his way home. •

MI's CAR TESTER (also an old salt) ran tests on set, declared it to be on the beam.

Photography Today

[*Continued from page* 138]

equipment—has a number of new refinements. For example, two filters are built into the camera. One is a Type A filter to allow the use of indoor color film outdoors and the other is a skylight filter for minimizing haze. The finder is marked with three frames to correspond with the taking angle of the three available lenses. A control knob permits the user to adjust the meter to the speed of the film being used, ASA 10 to 40. The camera exhibits Eastman's usual attention to fine details.

Signet 80. What with the rash of Japanese cameras popping out all over, it's refreshing to take a gander at a new American product in the 35mm rat race. Latest is the Signet 80, also a product of that prolific company, Eastman Kodak. Kodak calls its new entry an American Classic. It's completely American, except for the German meter which is built into the camera body. To use the meter, the camera is aimed at the scene to be photographed. A dial is then turned until its red pointer is aligned with a white pointer. Exposure values are then read directly off the meter. Incident light values can also be read with the meter by means of a translucent mask supplied with the camera.

The shutter speed of the camera ranges from 1/4 to 1/250th of a second. The lens is an f-2.8, 50mm Ektanar. Camera with carrying case sells for $144.

Speedy Film Dryer. This is for the guy who is always in a hurry or for the fellow who always makes the excuse, "I haven't got the prints for you because the negatives aren't dry yet." Well, this is a liquid that dries film in a hurry. A pint of it sells for $2.25. Instant Film Dryer, as the product is called, is distributed by the Yankee Photo Products Company of 3325 Union Pacific Ave., Los Angeles 23, Calif.

To use, the film is immersed in the liquid for two minutes and then wiped as dry as possible by means of a spring-loaded viscose sponge. The film is then hung up to dry in the usual fashion. While the film is called Instant Film Dryer, we found that a roll of 35mm film took about ten minutes to get bone-dry. But our basement darkroom, that evening, had a rather high humidity level. Good stuff. •

EVENING PROJECT

A "NEW" CHAIR

1

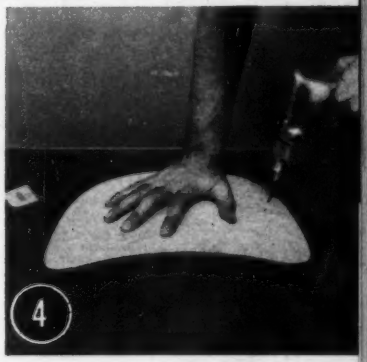
2

Old dinette chairs can be given a substantial lease on life by recovering the seats and replacing the upholstered backs with new ones made of pre-shaped plywood.

The first step (1) is to unscrew the old back and seat from the frame. Next (2) clean up the frame with a mild scouring powder and a good metal polish. The third step is cut a sheet of fabric-backed vinyl slightly larger than the seat. Tack it in place as shown. Stretch the corners into place before tacking down. The vinyl fabric has the necessary "give" for this important step.

Preformed unfinished plywood backs can be purchased from the Country Workshop, 95 Rome St., Newark 5, N.J. for about $8 per set of four. Drill pilot holes (4) in the back and then assemble the back to the frame (5). The final photo (6) shows the rejuvenated chair. Neat! •

3



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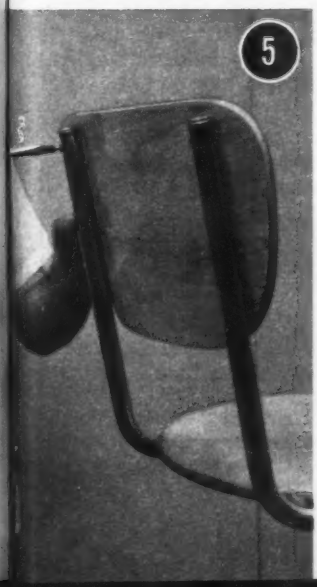

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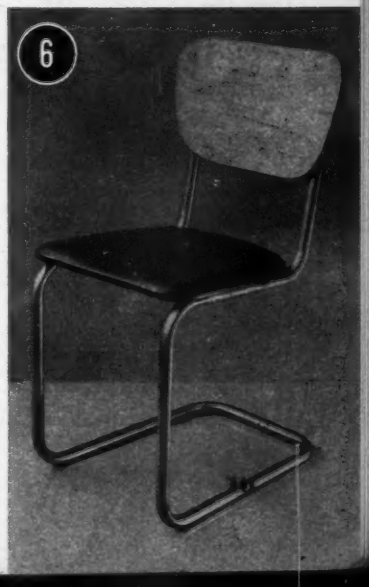

6

MEN! Make up to $1,000.00 IN A MONTH!

without "SELLING"

Sensational Demand for Low-Priced Fire Alarm PLUS Sure-Fire "No-Selling" Plan Offers Ambitious Men Huge Profit Opportunities

AMAZING NEW INVENTION

Even beginners who never sold anything in their lives are cleaning up unbelievable profits with the first practical effective, low priced Fire Alarm ever invented . . . needed, wanted in homes, factories, offices, stores, on farms, for boats, everywhere. Professional salesmen are making biggest profits in years! Later in this ad I'll tell you about the plan that's producing orders for 1 to 12 Fire Alarms per sale from 8 out of 10 prospects . . . without selling. Here are the facts about the Fire Alarm. It hangs on the wall like a picture—no wiring, no installation. It's always on guard . . . It 'smells' a fire before danger point. When temperature rises, Fire Alarm goes off automatically howls loud warning that can be heard 1/5 mile wakes up soundest sleeper, give precious time to put out fire, call fire department, or escape. And it sells for only $4.95 with profit up to $2.70 on each one.

Nearest Thing to AUTOMATION SELLING

With our field-tested plan customers sell themselves. No cold canvassing. No hard selling. It's the nearest thing to 'Automation Selling.' Imagine a sales plan even a child can use successfully because the sales tools we give you (and which you leave with your prospects) do all your selling even while you sleep! No room here to give you all the details but if you want big money fast rush the coupon now.

Make This Lighted-Match Demonstration

Sensitive! Lighted match triggers Alarms in 3 seconds.

Free Sales Kit

Send no money. Just rush coupon below for all the exciting moneymaking facts, complete Illustrated Sales Kit, everything you need to make money your first day. Learn how selling only 20 Fire Alarms a day pays you $1,080.00 profit in a month. No competition anywhere. Get in on the ground floor now. Rush this coupon.

Made $26.52 in 3 Hours! "Received first shipment about noon. Worked 3 hours and made $26.52 profit. It's a terrific seller!" —Stanley

MERLITE INDUSTRIES, Inc.
(ALARM DIVISION)
114 E. 32nd St., Dept. F-10T New York 16, N. Y.

ALVIN WESLEY, Sales Manager
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Rush FREE SALES KIT and full details about your "No-Selling" plan which gives me opportunity to make up to $1,000.00 in a month without cold canvassing and hard selling—automatically. I am not obligated.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ Zone _____ State _____

In Canada: Mepa Co., Ltd., 371 Dowd St., Montreal 1, P.Q.

Can You Stop In Time?

[*Continued from page* 131]

pedal and start the engine. If all is well, the pedal will move forward when power is added to your manual pressure.

Should the booster not be working, there may be leakage in the reserve tank, at the check valve or at the hose connection. A vacuum test also should be made to determine if vacuum is 18 to 20 inches while the engine idles. There also may be mechanical trouble involving the brake pedal hub and the linkage may be out of alignment. A click heard when the brakes are being used calls for reducing the amount of pedal free play.

Slow release of the brakes may indicate a sticky vacuum valve. A broken piston return spring will have the same effect and so will any interference with the piston. Sticking vacuum action will also cause severe braking.

Most drivers go into a panic when the brake pedal goes to the floor, or almost there. This indicates that there is air in the system (commonly due to re-using bled-off fluid instead of all new fluid); the brakes needing adjusting; or a lack of fluid in the master cylinder's reservoir. If the latter is the case, leakage in the line or at the wheel cylinders should be suspected. A leak also may have developed at the hydraulic piston seal, at the compensating valve or at the compensating port.

Since the average set of tires has only 125 square inches of contact with the road surface—just about the same contact your own two feet have with the sidewalk—your brakes can't be too good. Even if they're slightly out of equalization, a skid is possible. If you're to stop on time, you'd better keep abreast of the advances in braking. •

FUTURA

Scaled after the famous Lincoln Futura, this model has an electric motor, lights, indicator and plastic canopy. For full-scale plans send 50 cents to MECHANIX ILLUSTRATED, Fawcett Bldg., Greenwich, Conn. Specify Plan M-237, Futura.

The Amateur Telescope Maker's Page

VENUS

Venus at 200 power. The planet exhibits phases like the moon.

A STRIKING close conjunction of the crescent moon and brilliant planet Venus will add beauty to the twilight wherever skies are clear over the United States after sunset on Wednesday evening, March 11. In fact, across the southernmost latitudes of the western and some central states, observers will see the earth's real satellite graze or actually eclipse our fascinating sister world. This event is called a lunar occultation.

The mystery of what lies beneath the envelope of cloud surrounding Venus becomes even more tantalizing as the age of human space exploration approaches. Astronomers have never seen the planet's surface and can only conjecture about the length of a day there, if indeed the planet does rotate on its axis. Most other solar system bodies do and it is interesting to ponder whether some form of lush vegetation and high level animal life is thriving in what would be a pretty steamy, tropical environment except in the polar areas. Venus orbits at 67,000,000 miles from the sun, or about 26,000,000 miles closer than the earth.

Careful observation of the planet's high cloud cover reveals dusky regions which could be a glimpse of lower layers, atmospheric phenomena, or even indistinct ground features. The last have been tentatively mapped at the Meudon Observatory in France by dot intensity drawings on cellophane spanning a period of ten days. Superimposition of all the sheets confirms permanent markings as against drifting cloud formations. A telescopic magnification of 350 diameters or more is recommended for visual study of Venus, although of course its changing phases are clearly discernible in good binoculars. Due to the planet's reflected glare, serious observations are confined to daylight hours.

Both Ohio State University and the Naval [*Continued on page* 166]

[Continued from page 65]

Is this slight increase in compression the reason why we have to use high-test gasoline in these six-cylinder engines to keep them from "knocking" or "pinging"? Can this same engine mentioned above be adjusted to use regular gas satisfactorily as I have so often heard? If so, tell me how and if not, tell me why, please.

Ken Clarke
Okla. City, Okla.

The only way your engine can be "adjusted" to use regular gas without pinging is to have the spark timing retarded. As retarding the spark timing increases the gas consumption for every degree it is retarded, you'd eventually end up with no money savings—due to the extra gas burned—and would have an extremely poor-running automobile. A compression ratio of 8.6:1 is a borderline case today, and you'll be happier using high test, but be sure to keep your engine tuned to get the most out of premium fuel.

● *Two questions, if you please: (1) Are you blood kin to Ernest Hemingway? (2) What do you do for a living?*

Henry L. Kirchner
Tulsa, Okla.

Sorry I can't claim any kinship to Hemingway. My main occupation is gathering holly for the Christmas trade.

● *Have been reading your test reports of new cars since you started penning them and truly get a kick reading your whimsical remarks. Always feel you are a damned lucky fellow—rolling in fat pay and driving in brand new cars. Finally, will you ask your trunk tester to shave off the remaining hair on his head so that we won't confuse you two. Best wishes to you.*

Neo Lam Chuan
Singapore 19

The only trouble with "fat pay" is that all you can use it for is getting fat. As for riding around in all those brand-new cars, you kids with those New Jersey-built rickshas and the gals who started the sack dress craze are a lot better off than trying to push a Michigan balloon into the Lincoln Tunnel on Friday night.

● *I am a subscriber to your magazine and have enjoyed your articles and column for a long time. Keep up the good work! Incidentally, I want to put in my claim for "Most Distant Reader."*

Robert H. Gay
Sumatra, Indonesia

The kid in the letter above, Bob, from Singapore, could give you quite a push on your "Most Distant Reader" title, but you still have the edge. Any other challengers? No claims from East Orange, N.J., will be considered.

● *In all your car tests you give performance figures recorded on corrected speedometer. I know how to measure the speedometer error in a car, given a stop watch and a measured mile. But it is one thing to measure the error and quite another to correct it. Could you tell me how to get true readings from my speedometer; e.g., how to have it read 60 mph when I am actually going 60 mph?*

Edward Kirke
Mexico

First, figure out your error over a measured mile with a stopwatch. Find how fast it must indicate to read a true 60 mph. For example, if you must go 66 mph to do an honest 60, any top-grade speedometer service can quickly make the adjustment for you. You can do it yourself if you're real gutty and clever, but this is not recommended. Bear in mind, your speedometer itself may be 100 accurate at 60 mph but be thrown off by tire conditions, air pressure or a number of other factors. Speedometers should be adjusted with a master clock which will show if the instrument is at fault. But this won't help if rear axle ratio or tires vary from normal.

In all the hundreds of speedometers I've tested, I've never found one that was accurate all the way through the complete range. If it was on at 60 mph, it was off at 30 mph or 80 mph or even 50 mph. I found one weird one that was accurate at 50 mph but was eight mph off at 60 mph. When we mention in our car tests "All times on a corrected speedometer," it merely means that we've located the accurate points on the instrument for each speed tested and do our timing at these points. To be sure that we're hitting this point on the nose, we always make at least six runs at each distance.

● *According to my 16-cylinder, supercharged brain, an American-built convertible should theoretically be more roadable, and corner better, than a four-door sedan of the same make and year because: (a) the convertible doesn't carry the weight of a steel top on high, so it should have a lower*

[Continued on page 146]

What kind of a car do you want, exactly? Chevrolet has a choice of nine engines, five transmissions, two suspension systems, regular or Positraction rear axles, special cams, two air-conditioning systems, even Fuel Injection—the list of extra-cost options is tremendous. But what it means is that you can virtually design your own car, tailored precisely to your needs. Here's just one example:

"I 'built' my Chevy for top economy... and extra easy running at 300 miles a day."

"As a traveling salesman with a big Midwest territory I rack off about 300 miles a day—and, boy, how I love gas economy. But I like all the comfort I can get, too.

"I used to wish I could design my own car, until this year. That's when my on-the-ball dealer friend showed me how I could 'build' just the right car out of Chevy's terrific list of options. Look what I got:

"I picked a Biscayne two-door, 'cause I pay for my own auto and that's right at the base of the price list. A Hi-Thrift 6 engine—that's the world's best workhorse. And Overdrive; with that high ratio you can just whisper down the road at good fast cruising speeds. No strain, hour after hour . . . and that gas needle *never* seems to go down!

"Then I pampered myself a little bit. Foam rubber padding in the seats (I'm a big guy and I spend *hours* at the wheel); Chevy's new throttle-holder where you just set your cruising speed for those long straights and the car holds it while you rest your right foot; the big 'fresh-air' heater. Man, you should drive my car. It fits me like a glove!"

There's something to figure on, friends. Whatever kind of car you want—sports car, salesman's car, town car—you can "design" it for yourself. But check your Chevrolet dealer and see how you can suit yourself to a T. . . . Chevrolet Division of General Motors, Detroit 2, Michigan.

CHEVROLET

Hunting The Snowshoe

[Continued from page 70]

He likes to live near or in dense cover and is partial to cedar swamps and big alder jungles or juniper jungles that have an abundant supply of food nearby: tender aspen and popple wood. To hide the varying hare from his deadliest enemies—the great horned owl, barred owl, coyote, wolf, fox, bobcat and weasel family including the fierce marten and fisher, as well as man and the house cat—nature gave him a marvelous coat. In summer he is as brown as the rocks and roots. In winter he turns as white as the soft surface over which he races with such amazing speed.

The varying hare abounds by the tens of thousands in the wonderfully wild and unspoiled Adirondack Mountains of New York, a forest covering more than 15,000 square miles. The snowshoe is also reported to be plentiful in most of Maine, portions of New Hampshire, Vermont, Michigan, Minnesota, California and Washington and moderately plentiful in a few other states.

The beginner should know that he must hunt snowshoes deep in the woods where the undergrowth is thick and a swamp, stream or pond is handy. Take your compass!

Men new to an area will do well to drive their cars slowly over the back roads and keep an eye on the shoulders of the road. Snowshoes love to cross woods roads and to frolic up and down them in the moonlight. When you find snowshoe tracks, stop and investigate. Follow the tracks into the woods for several hundred feet. If they peter out into nothing, go back to your car and drive on. When you come upon a maze of deep runways cut through the forest like city streets, you've hit the jackpot. Go back and fetch the hounds and guns.

When your dogs jump a snowshoe, you have four things to do: 1. Look around for well-beaten runways on each side. If possible find several places where two or more intersect; 2. Listen to the dogs and try to determine at the earliest moment in which direction the rabbit will circle back, usually along established runways, especially if the snow is deep. Should there be only several inches of snow, the snowshoes are likely to zig-zag all over the woods on their way back and pop up at the most un-

[Continued on page 148]

Mail For McCahill

[Continued from page 144]

center of gravity than the sedan; (b) the convertible's heavier frame, that supposedly makes up for the absent bracing of a steel top, gives more weight to the bottom of the open car than a sedan has and so lowers the soft-top's CG even more; (c) the greater weight of the soft-top, due to its beefier frame and its top raising mechanism, etc., should also help it to hold the road better than the steel-topped car.

Now, Uncle Tom, I would like to know whether your two million miles of driving experience confirms my brainstorm or blows it higher than a conceited politician. In your opinion, are convertibles really more roadable than sedans of the same make and year? And is the extra roadability, if any, enough to make the soft-tops safer than their hard-headed brothers, even though the soft-tops hardly give any protection in case of a roll-over?

David Michaelson
Montreal, Canada

The average steel top today can be easily carried by a ruptured ten-year-old and actually weighs little more than the framework and fabric of the average convertible. From your letter I believe you are referring to high-speed cornering with American convertibles. If so, a steel top job should prove more roadable because of better streamlining. Have you ever noticed how even the finest convertible tops balloon out of shape at high speeds? Another point: With the top down, extreme turbulence, even on the floor, is caused by pushing the ram-like windshield through the air with a distorted bleed-off shape immediately behind it. Even your big head creates disturbing windcurrents. No, the sedan is a better road car than the convertible, if for no other reason than the fact that all American cars are designed basically as closed jobs. The convertible models are lopped in over these designs as afterthoughts.

● *My father and I had an argument on which was the fastest American-made car on the road. He says it's the Ford Thunderbird and I say it's the Chrysler 500D. Who's right, or are we both wrong?*

Joe Houlette
Clark's Green, Pa.

You're both wrong, I'm sorry to say. The Ford Thunderbird did a sizzling 107 mph at Daytona Beach last winter (which meant it was one of the slowest cars on the beach). A "500D Chrysler" hasn't been made yet, to our

[Continued on page 148]

Hydroplane racing proves that engines do their *best* with Champion spark plugs. The last 13 Gold Cup winners have been powered by Champions.

Q. Why do 9 out of 10 powerboat winners use Champion spark plugs?

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Hunting The Snowshoe

[*Continued from page* 146]

expected places; 3. When the baying of the hounds swings to your right or left, this is your cue to quickly take a stand in view of the most likely runway. Try to find a high spot, an old stump, pile of rocks, blowdown or mound and climb up to where you can see clearly for some distance about you; 4. Remain as motionless as possible. Keep your eyes alert for the slightest movement in the brush. Never shoot until you can see the rabbit clearly and distinctly and know that no dog or hunter is in the line of fire.

It is always a good idea to look over the country you plan to hunt each year. A place that was loaded with snowshoes last winter will not necessarily provide good shooting this season. Great horned owls, foxes, coyotes, wolves, weasels and bobcats have a way of finding rabbit concentrations and decimating them during the lean winter months.

The best hounds for this hunting—where the snow is often deep and fluffy—are beagles and bassets. Of the two, I prefer the basset. He works slower, therefore brings the snowshoe back in tighter circles and he has a voice that is pure woods music. Bassets are low to the ground, get under dense undergrowths and blowdowns that would stop a beagle and most of them can handle deep snow beautifully.

Most hunters use shotguns for snowshoes. The gauge varies to taste. I'm told that the 20-gauge is the popular gun at the moment but I still prefer the old 12 semi-automatic, with No. 6 shot in standard field load. This gun makes clean kills and reaches out a bit further for long shots. A few, especially women, like the little .410. The .22 is also growing in popularity. I know of at least one couple who successfully hunt snowshoes with bows and arrows.

Clothing is something to consider carefully. Snowshoe country is sub-zero land and you'll need heavy long johns, woolen shirts and socks and heavy woolen pants in most places. I use a down parka for hunting the Adirondacks where it frequently gets to 20 and 30 below zero. Snowshoes are another good item to take along. Include hand warmers, warm gloves and insulated boots and you'll be ready for some happy hunting. •

Mail For McCahill

[*Continued from page* 146]

knowledge, but the 300D was the 1958 model. The fastest car in 1958 was the Pontiac, and the fastest accelerating car in a standing mile was the Chrysler 300D. The Daytona Beach stock car speed record is still held by a '56 Chrysler 300B.

● *I would like to know if you have ever tested a Rolls-Royce? If so, what do you think of this car? Are all the things they say about it true? Other people I've talked to have said it was all a big hoax.*

Philip Petty
Hayward, Calif.

Tested a '58 Rolls recently, but not for publication. It was great, and all the good things ever said about it are true.

● *Thought you might be interested in the enclosed clipping. I've heard the Volkswagen was good, but this is ridiculous.*

Geo. E. Millar
Manitoba, Canada

Clipping from the Winnipeg Tribune dated May 20, 1958, showed a Volkswagen floating in midstream with a woman and child in it, after the car rolled down an embankment and into a swift current. All were saved, including the Volkswagen, due to its boat-like properties. The advice of this department: if such a thing should happen to you, roll up the windows because the spray may ruin your watch.

● *After reading your piece about Chrysler's Auto Pilot in your Imperial Test, I tried to get one installed in my '57 New Yorker. Unfortunately, it costs almost twice as much as when you buy it factory-installed so I gave it up. The Service Manager told me that there are other similar gadgets which sell for much less. Do you have any dope on these?*

Richard C. Cole
Chicago, Ill.

Recently I tried out a poor man's Auto Pilot that does everything the Auto Pilot does except add and decrease speed automatically for up and downhill going. This had features, however, that even the real Auto Pilot doesn't, and was better for suburban use in some ways. It's simple to install (about 20 minutes) and sells for about five bucks. Like the Auto Pilot, it's controlled by brake pedal and throttle, and disengages the instant you flick the brake. The guy manufacturing it is Leon Arpin, Viomul Chemical Corp., North Caldwell, N.J.

—*Tom McCahill*

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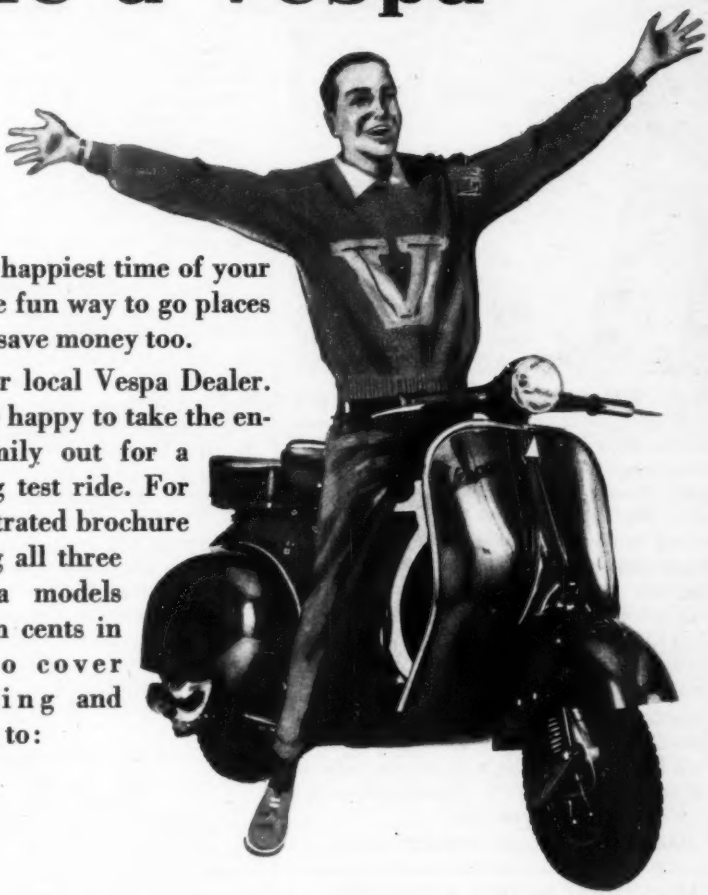

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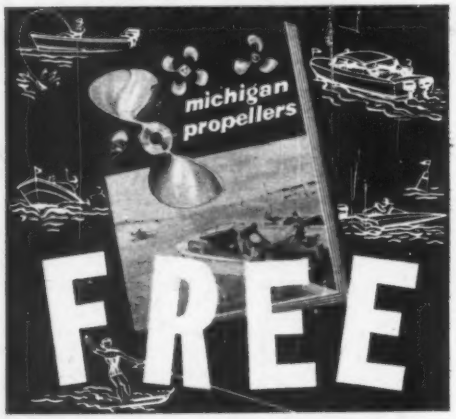

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The '59 Plymouth

[*Continued from page* 87]

under 15 seconds in getting to 60 mph. Soon ten seconds became the magic mark. A guy named Pete Estes, Chief Engineer of Pontiac, built cars that in 1957 set the current MI 0-60 record for standard sedans at 8.2 seconds. The '59 Pontiac in its test hit 8.2 seconds again and, as anyone on the drag strips knows, Pontiac has been the hot bomb for several years now.

What surprised me, in this year of de-emphasized performance, was the way the Fury got to 60 mph. After many runs, the facts were undeniable: the 1959 Plymouth Sports Fury averaged 8.2 seconds, which puts it in a dead heat with the thundering Pontiacs as the drag king of the nation—or, to be international, the world, as no European sedan can come close to this performance.

When Speed Weeks roll around and the MI Trophy is up for grabs in the one mile standing-start runs, if the Fury doesn't win its class hands-down, the car that beats it will have to be scrutinized pretty thoroughly because I've tested all the competitors and none can come even close to it. In the overall standing-start mile the Plymouth can be beaten but it will take a big car to do it—a Chrysler 300 or a 140-mph Pontiac. Top speed on the Fury I tested was 122 mph, which is not enough to win a one mile standing-start run on Daytona Beach in the unlimited class. The Plymouth and the Pontiac would perhaps be together, wheel turn for wheel turn, at the half-mile post but then the bigger, more powerful engines of either the Pontiac or Chrysler would take over and forge ahead.

I drove this Plymouth flat-out, which was 122 mph, for over 40 miles on the Chrysler Proving Grounds track and there wasn't the slightest sign of overheating or breakdown. It felt just as comfortable at these high speeds as did the '59 Imperial which I drove at exactly the same rate right after making the Plymouth runs. It should be borne in mind that all acceleration runs were made with the automatic Torque Flite transmission. If you're a real bearcat for performance you can order the Fury with a manual stick shift which, if you're up to it in skill, should

[*Continued on page* 152]

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The '59 Plymouth

[*Continued from page* 150]

allow you to eke out a few extra rpm and probably whack off a bit from that 0-60 time of 8.2 seconds.

Plymouth, in this writer's opinion, has suffered somewhat in its transformation from a dowdy, sensible little car to a gutsy glamor gal of today. Back in the '30s and '40s the same "Plymouth" seemed to be just right but today it may be a bit of a handicap, somewhat similar to putting a moniker like Hermione Schultz on Brigitte Bardot. You may think this is unimportant but I don't. "Plymouth" subconsciously makes you think of Pilgrims, buckle shoes and John and Priscilla Alden—but it doesn't conjure up the picture that names such as Buffalo Bill, Wild Bill Hickok or even Robin Hood bring to mind. Gutsy names usually go with gutsy cars, such as Stutz, Duesenberg, Mercedes and even Jaguar. If I had the say I'd play down the name Plymouth and build up the name Fury. I mentioned this to a high company official and he agreed with me.

Twenty-eight per cent of all '58 Plymouths sold were station wagons. This figure might have been higher if there had been more station wagons available. I have three close contacts who tried to buy Plymouth wagons but switched to the competition when they were told they'd have to wait anywhere from six weeks to three months for delivery. I'm told this condition will be cleared up in 1959. As we wrote last year, the Plymouth station wagon was not only the biggest in its field but as big as any made in the country, with exactly the same carrying capacity as the Chrysler New Yorker wagon, costing a great deal more.

In summing up, as this is written I've already tested 75 per cent of the new cars and I've tested all the '59 cars in Plymouth's price bracket. In my opinion, the 1959 Plymouth is an outstanding buy—good-looking, comfortable, able and by far the best in its field in all departments which include performance, comfort and, most important of all, safety and roadability. •

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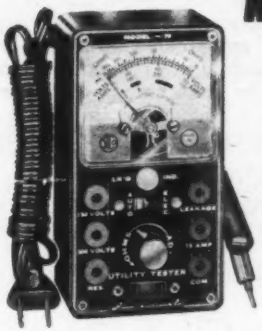

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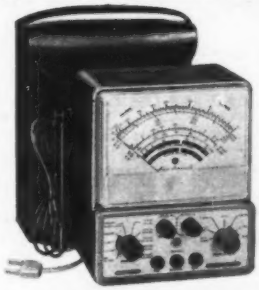

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Mail Order Experts

[Continued from page 81]

business rupted after World War II and is still giving off golden sparks. There are many others beside Joe Cossman proving that money can be made in one of the few remaining major businesses in which a fellow can make a strike with limited capital.

What's new in this intriguing business? What are the red-hot items these days? Who goes broke and who hits the jackpot? And why?

I put these and many other questions to leading mail order experts in many parts of the country. Here are some of the know-how secrets revealed by these top mail order experts.

What are the most popular mail order items being sold today?

The best-selling items today are unusual automobile accessories, industrial equipment, giftware and novelty items, reports Irvin Graham, one of the top mail order specialists.

Which of these items is the best?

Nobody can definitely predict a hit but the best sellers today are the offbeats, the novelties.

Joe Cossman's imitation shrunken head is a good example of an offbeat item. A Long Island manufacturer offers left-handed scissors! A New Yorker is marketing a gold toothpick. For sunbathing girls, a Chicago outfit has come up with a beautifully jewelled nose guard.

Are there any "sleeper" fields for mail order selling?

Yes. It's food. The secret lies in providing deluxe items, gourmet foods and specialties that folks cannot get in local food markets.

What's being sold? Specialties ranging from Grandma's gefulte fish to *escargots a la francaise* (snails). Customers clamor for such tidbits as pickled artichoke nubs, cucumber marmalade, wild pheasant, curried walnuts, almond paste pretzels, a hundred exotic cheeses, canned fried grasshoppers and caviar.

How big is the mail order business and how much has it grown in the last few years?

It's a fantastically large enterprise. Economic reports reveal that the sell-by-mail business is rapidly creeping up on de-

partment stores sales. Total mail order sales for the last recorded year was $1,407,000,000, one-eighth of all department store sales throughout the country.

What have successful mail order men discovered about the price of items?

Although cheaper items (between $1 and $5) are the safest bet, higher priced goods are finding excellent markets.

Four years ago, for example, Charles Schonbrun of New York decided to try selling by mail. Charles was a beginner, so he didn't know the rules. He didn't know, for instance, that you weren't supposed to sell anything costing more than a few dollars. He struck it rich when he decided to sell fine cutlery, ranging up to $26 a set.

Charles' experience is by no means unique. Mail order businessmen are selling boat kits costing hundreds of dollars, tractors, costly telescopes and binoculars, floor saws, entire electrical plants, lawnmower sharpeners, plows, even put-it-together-yourself houses costing many thousands!

Are there any new markets to tap in mail order today?

Yes. The GI market. Many experts in the field are convinced that this is a potential billion-dollar market. A few smart chaps have already discovered that they can actually sell new model cars to American soldiers stationed overseas, and deliver the cars when the men are shipped back to this country!

Where can beginners get sound advice on how to start, do's and don'ts, etc., of the mail order business?

Highly recommended is How To Sell Through Mail Order, published by McGraw-Hill of New York. Other good books are: Help Yourself To Better Mail Order, Printers' Ink, N. Y.; How To Start Your Own Mail Order Business, Stravon, N. Y.; How To Win Success In The Mail Business, Arco, N. Y.

Are there any final words of advice?

The Department of Commerce points out that experience has shown it's advisable for beginners to start a part-time business and to operate from their homes. Bear in mind that casualties run high in this line but the jackpot is there. It has been claimed time and again by the quick and alert. It can be claimed by you, too! •

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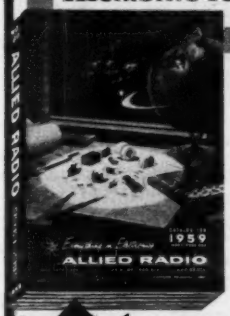

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[*Continued from page* 69]

the stuff as quickly as soldier would burn it up! The cyclic rate is 750 rounds per minute or 12½ per second—which is fast, man, fast!

Of much simpler construction than the M1 and containing far fewer parts, the M14 works on a similar but softer-acting gas expansion system that makes for surprisingly comfortable shooting. Wearing an ordinary business coat over a cotton shirt, with no shoulder pad or other recoil protection, I fired perhaps 100 rounds over a period of an hour and didn't experience the slightest distress. I predict that the GIs who get this rifle will like it very much and will learn quickly to shoot it well.

As the new shooting iron of the Armed Forces of the United States, the M14 will replace three existing weapons: the Garand M1, the .30 cal. carbine and the M3 sub-machine or "grease" gun. With a heavier barrel but the same mechanism, the M14 will become the M15 and will replace the Browning Automatic Rifle. •

Auto Racing

[*Continued from page* 59]

veteran racing official as admitting exactly that!

In a civilized society, can we in full conscience allow a sport to go on when death and maiming is a virtually inevitable by-product—when we *know* and *expect* people to be killed or seriously hurt?

No sensible person denies that enormous

[*Continued on page* 158]

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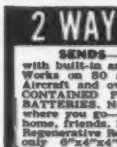

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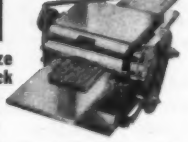

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Auto Racing

[*Continued from page* 156]

peril exists for drivers of cars who roar around tracks at great speeds and jockey wildly for positions. Anything can happen as tires and brakes, vital to safety, take gruelling punishment. If it doesn't happen, Providence alone can be thanked.

And now we come to still another danger—the risk to the spectator. Fortunately, we have not had any catastrophe in this country similar to the flaming death which snuffed out the lives of 82 persons at the famous 24-hour Le Mans race in 1955—not yet.

But are we absolutely certain it can't happen here?

Professor Lafore of Swarthmore makes this chilling assertion in Harper's: "The special horror of Le Mans was the product of special circumstances *but something like it might happen anywhere.*" The italics are mine. Lafore points out:

"It is clear that the designers and engineers have created a degree of power and speed which leads by a lap or two the driving ability, safety precautions and organizing power of human skill."

I'll ask this question: In all the auto racing tracks of the country, are the spectators completely and sufficiently safeguarded against disaster such as befell the onlookers at Le Mans that tragic day? Is there no possibility that such a catastrophe could be repeated in one of America's races?

The world won't ever forget what occurred at Le Mans. Approximately 250,000 persons were watching the race. About three hours after the contest began, an Austin-Healey driven by Great Britain's Lance Macklin swerved to avoid a Jaguar driven by Mike Hawthorn. Coming down fast was Pierre Levegh, driving a Mercedes.

The Mercedes couldn't veer or brake in time. It struck the Healey in the rear left corner and took off crazily. It hit an earthen embankment on the side of the track and somersaulted over and over for dozens of yards. The driver was hurled out and instantly killed. As it spun, the car exploded and pieces flew into the crowd like a fragmentation bomb.

The effect was devastating. About 20 persons were mercilessly decapitated by

the flying hood. The engine and front axle hurtled into another section and killed dozens more. Others were burned to death as the car's flaming body descended on them. The toll: 82 dead, 78 injured.

Could it happen here?

I think that if we cannot answer that question with an unqualified *no*, we are not justified in permitting the continuance of this sport in our country.

Why wait until a disaster happens before we clean house? If, through the tragedy that came to another nation, we have been taught a sobering lesson, isn't it foolhardy not to pay attention?

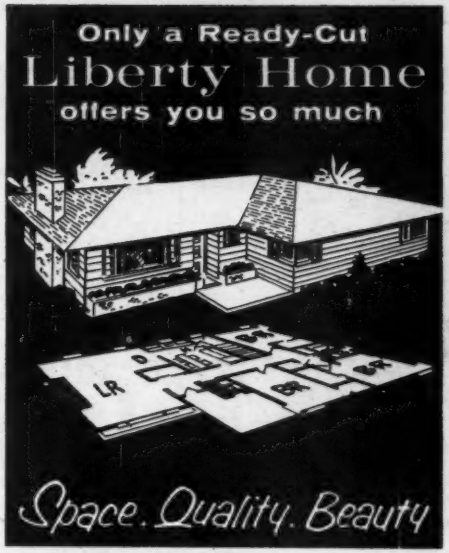
There's a tragic footnote to the Le Mans horror. The French authorities took all sorts of precautions for the following year. With all the precautions, a man was smashed to death and some dozen cars crashed, flipped and skidded. This year's race was no better. The crackups followed one after the other. One driver hit an embankment head-on. He caromed off as another came up. The driver of the first car was killed.

I am primarily concerned over the adverse impact of automobile racing on the psychology and attitude of youthful Americans. Racing tends to glamorize speed and dare-devilry in automobile operation, an attitude completely at odds with efforts to install safe-driving principles in the minds of young drivers. Hundreds of thousands of dollars are spent on safety campaigns. How much of this is dissipated by the adverse psychological impact of auto racing on young minds?

There is something else about automobile racing which worries me. America is gradually becoming a nation of spectators. I would rather see Americans engage themselves in hiking, golfing, camping and bicycling than watching a handful of men —and even women—risk their lives wheeling racing cars around a track. The President's Conference on Physical Fitness has demonstrated worry over the health, stamina and athletic prowess of most Americans—and I share this concern.

However, there are some bright spots in the picture. Already the most hazardous of all types of racing, the "open road" kind, has been practically abandoned in this country. These, as the name implies, are held over public highways, with spectators

[*Continued on page* 161]



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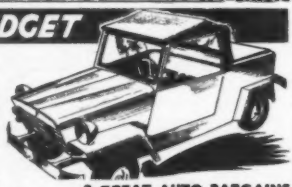

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WELDER

Auto Racing

[*Continued from page* 159]

lining the roadsides as the cars zoom by.

If we need any evidence that we've done the right thing by abandoning open road racing here, all we have to do is look toward Europe. It was just a year ago last May that Marquis Alfonso de Portago was streaking along during the Mille Miglia when either a tire blew or an axle broke. His car, a Ferrari, swerved, uprooted a milestone and crashed into a telephone pole.

An instant later, de Portago and his co-driver were dead. But the horror was far worse. The car had smashed into the dense crowds that lined the road and killed 13 spectators, some of them small children.

If this isn't enough to convince us we've done right, then all we need do is look toward Cuba. Last March, during the 315-mile Gran Primo de Cuba race, a young driver took a shallow turn, skidded and ran into a crowd. In a moment, seven were dead and 31 injured.

There is another bright spot in the American auto racing picture. In 1957, the Automobile Manufacturers Association recommended that its member companies (General Motors, Ford, Chrysler, Studebaker-Packard and American Motors) cease all participation in car racing. The AMA directors, meeting in Detroit, recommended in a resolution that the companies no longer enter cars in the various competitions held throughout the country, including stock car racing.

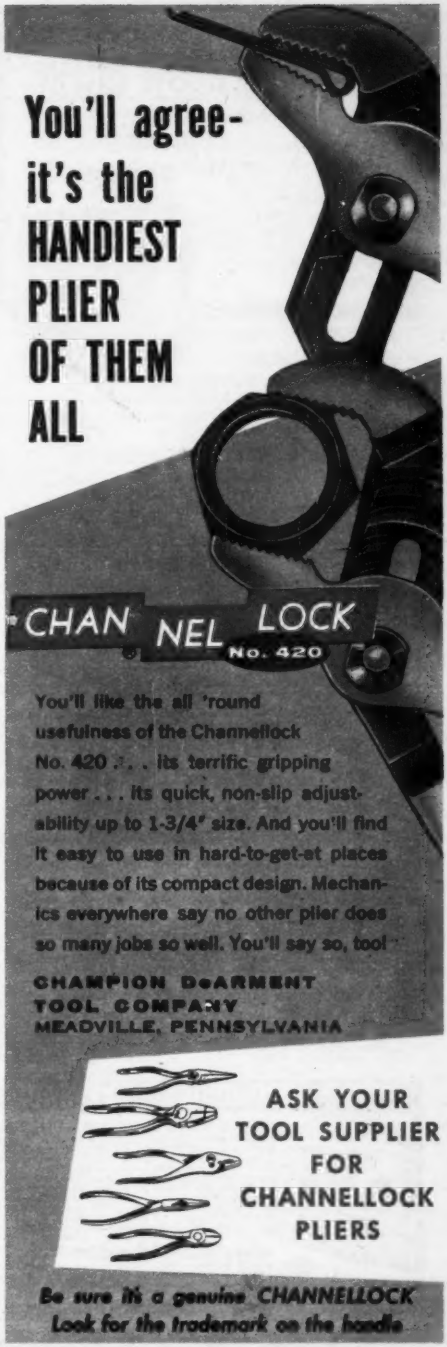
And this brings up one final point.

Promoters of auto races say that these contests are essential to the technical development of various advances in car construction. They assert it's necessary to run racing cars at great speeds in order to test new devices and gadgets for general use in passenger vehicles.

I challenge this ridiculous claim.

Even if this should be true, isn't it perfectly obvious that the necessary high speeds can be achieved without running 20 or 30 cars simultaneously around a narrow track before huge audiences of spectators?

If high speed is the main thing, why not run each car against the clock, but alone on the track? In this way, the high speeds allegedly so vital to technical improvements in vehicles would be achieved and



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90 per cent of the hazard would be eliminated, because the danger comes principally from crashes.

Of course, this would also automatically eliminate something else—much of the thrill and excitement—and therein lies the reason for the promoters' opposition to such a reform. They know crowds flock to the tracks not merely to watch speed but because death rides with the drivers and there is the possibility of seeing wrecks. If speed alone were desired, cars could race individually against time and in comparative safety.

We live in a civilized nation. I think we must obey the standards of a civilized nation. Automobile racing, whether by racing cars, sports cars or stock cars, challenges these standards.

We don't legalize bull fights and cock fights for the thrills they give to spectators and the profits they make for promoters. I believe auto racing falls now in the same category. It should be outlawed! •

Coast To Coast

[*Continued from page* 91]

avoid reducing gears, which would have burned more gas under all but the most extreme conditions. Over the peaks I'd let momentum take over and would get up to as high as 60-65 with a partly-open throttle to avoid sucking raw gas into the manifold.

This process was repeated 100 times that first day. Then came another nasty twist—the temperature in Yuma, Ariz., where we stopped for lunch, was a flat 104° F. We had been driving with all the windows rolled up, except for a slight crack of the side vent and driver's window. Open windows can rob quite a bit of gas and there was nothing in the book that said I couldn't be a bald-headed eccentric and ride with them closed, even though the temperature was 104°. Needless to say, we didn't have air conditioning. We did, however, consume salt pills like peas at a banquet.

Our first night's stop was on the outskirts of Tucson. Our average speed for the day had been 43.2 mph and our gas consumption was 22.3 miles per gallon. The next three days were really tough as we bucked headwinds of 18-24 mph and heavy rains, both of which bit hard into our miles-per-gallon average. The prevailing winds are supposedly from west to east

but this was one time they picked to reverse direction. We fought headwinds and heavy rain all the way to Abilene but managed to keep our average still above 22 mpg. On only three occasions did we gas up at midday, as these cars can do well over 400 miles on a 20-gallon tankful.

Gassing up soon became a ritual like watching all your money run on one horse. The gas tanks were sealed, so at each gas stop Freil had to break the seal and another official handled the hose until the tank appeared to be full. The cap was then replaced and the car was rocked from side to side by several volunteers to work out any air bubbles. The hose would then be put into the tank again. Oddly enough, after this rocking you could usually squeeze four- or five-tenths of a gallon more fuel into the tank. Then it was finally sealed and the mileage and exact number of pennies spent for the gas was recorded.

Gas prices ranged from 37.4 to 29.9 cents per gallon of regular, depending on the state and area. We were careful not to use the same brand of gas twice in a row. We also always bought what are considered standard brands.

After the first day or two, McMichael and I developed a technique of anchoring our gas foot between the gas pedal and transmission tunnel. We rarely moved our foot up and down but rolled it to the left for more gas and to the right for less.

When we hit downtown Dallas, the Texas State Fair was in full progress and it was then that I recalled asking the Pontiac boys, "How about driving through the big cities at night?" In an hour we progressed hardly ten miles. In three and a half hours we hit 174 traffic lights and later that evening, as we came into Shreveport, La., we found that city jammed to the hilt. This did two things to the economy run: it cut deeply into our gas economy and knocked all hell out of our average speed. Before getting into the Dallas hassle we found that, for the preceding 400-plus miles, we had averaged 23.3 mpg. This was the best figure of the trip. The brightest spot of the day, though, was pulling into the LaSands Western Hills Motel just east of Shreveport. This was the most lush motel I've ever been in.

[*Continued on page* 165]

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Coast To Coast

[*Continued from page* 163]

Our next stop was Selma, Ala. The traffic east of the Mississippi called for severe alterations in our tactics. Hundreds of small towns and many more traffic lights bit deeply into mileage and speed. The one thing I knew, even before becoming an economy driver, was that traffic-light starting could burn up a few cups or a few drops of fuel, depending on how you did it. No drag strip starts here. The throttles were eased down and the car was permitted to gather speed, not awkwardly but not flashily. Never once did we hold up traffic behind us. West of the Mississippi we found that to maintain an average of 40 mph-plus in open country we had to drive at a constant 46-47 mph. East of the Mississippi we found 52-53 mph was necessary.

After Selma, we ran right into the mid-morning traffic of Montgomery, Ala., and then Phenix City and Columbus, Ga., which are neck and neck across the river. It was like trying to get through Times Square on New Year's Eve. At our lunch stop at Roberta, Ga., Norm Cheal, Pontiac's navigating engineer, gave us the bad news. This heavy traffic had knocked our average so hard we were actually 22 minutes late. This meant running the last 200-plus miles to Savannah, our destination, at legal speed limits (60 mph) in order to make up the time. We slammed to a stop in front of the Hotel Manger in Savannah with 14 minutes to spare.

Average speed on the 2,442.7-mile trip from the Atlantic to the Pacific was 40.2 mph. Actual driving time was 60.72 hours and we averaged 21.7 mpg. We spent $35.79 for fuel, the cost per mile being less than one and one-half cents.

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Venus

[*Continued from page* 143]

Research Laboratory in this country have received definite radio noise originating from Venus. When amplified, it crackles much like static from a terrestrial thunderstorm. This is very likely the radio frequency portion of thermal energy emission, common to any cool body absorbing heat from the sun.

Venus revolves around the sun in about 225 days. We thus see it alternately in our western evening and eastern morning skies. It follows that if the planet is almost on the other side of the sun from the earth, its phase is nearly full. Its visible diameter is small. At greatest apparent angle of separation from the sun (called elongation), Venus is "largest," like a half moon. That will occur on June 25, 1959. As it swings almost between the earth and sun, we see a big slender crescent. At rare times the planet is seen to transit the face of the sun at inferior conjunction.

The diameter of Venus is 7,160 miles, just 300 miles less than the earth. The best estimate of its rotation gives a month-long day, which might create extremes of temperature on the dark and light side. Spectroscopic analysis reveals an abundance of carbon dioxide in the Venusian air but little free oxygen or water vapor. Such conditions are discouraging to the existence of life as we know it and, if anything, indicate a boiling hot climate underneath the clouds. The only answer to some of these problems is for man to penetrate Venus with instrument probes and later to explore it himself. The mass, density and gravity of Venus is approximately 80 per cent of the Earth's.

Venus is by far the brightest celestial object we can see other than the sun and moon. It reaches a magnitude of —4.4, or about 50 times more glittering than a conspicuous star. This means the planet will cast a faint shadow on clear nights and can be spotted with the naked eye in the daytime.—*Peter A. Leavens* •

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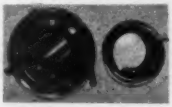

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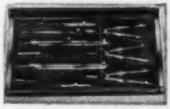

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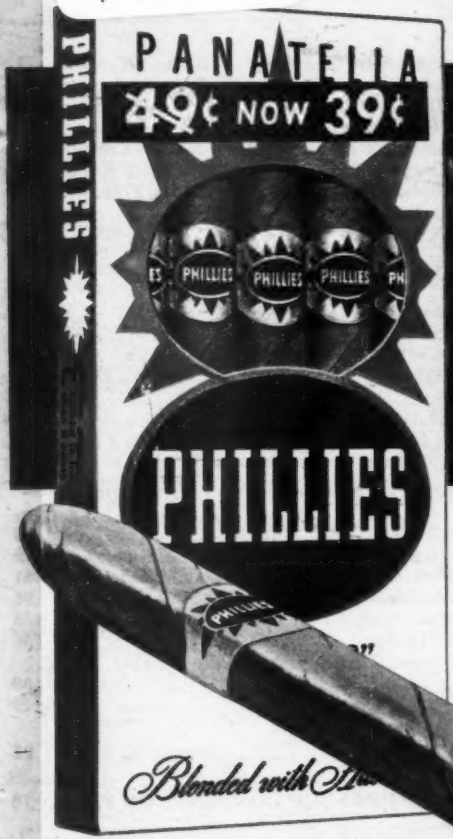

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HOW good is the new Studebaker Lark? Can it burn up the highway with a sizzling zero to 60 mph in 8.5 seconds as rumors have claimed? If you want the facts on this brand-new '59 baby, see the test report by MI's one-and-only Tom McCahill. Tom's test starts on pg. 86 and gives the low-down on the Lark.

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Cover photo by R. J. Capotosto

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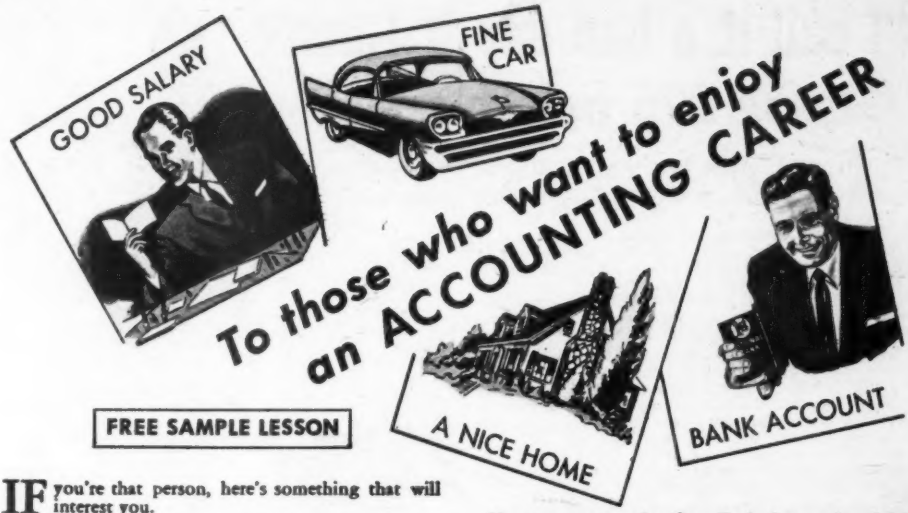

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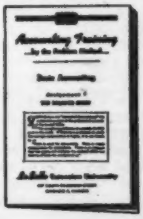

"I call it a bad day if I don't make $25 before noon"

(This chair alone brought $4.50 with twenty-five minutes work and 32¢ in cleaning materials.)

by Harold Holmes

"Just a few months ago I made the big move. I gave up my job and started spending all my time in the little business I had been running on the side. It wasn't an easy decision, but, now I'm tickled to death I made it. Not just because I'm my own boss or because I have an excellent chance of making over $10,000 this year. It goes deeper than that.

"You see, this idea has caught on like wildfire in my town. Not a day goes by without my phone ringing with women calling for appointments. The beauty of it is that once a woman becomes my customer, she calls back year after year. Not only that, she tells her friends, too, and they call me. Before I know it I'm swamped with work. (And at $7.50 an hour net profit it doesn't take long before my bank account is really mushrooming.)

"Funny thing, but back last year, before I started, I never realized the money there was in this business waiting for someone to come along and collect it. Just think: every house in town has furniture and most have rugs or carpeting. I concentrate on just the better homes and have more work than I can handle. You know why? Because women are fussy about their furnishings. Can't stand to see them dirty. That's why they call me over every year.

"The average job is worth $25.00 to me and takes a little over 2 hours. Out of this, after paying for materials, advertising and other expenses I net about $15.00 clear profit. This means I need just 3 jobs a day to clear $11,250.00 in a year. Frankly, since this will be my first full-time year I'll be glad to hit the $10,000 mark. But after that this business should grow larger each year until I have to hire men to help me handle the business.

Personally Trained

"Believe me there's nothing magic about it. I didn't know a thing about cleaning home furnishings before I became a Duraclean dealer. But after my application was accepted, I was trained in their factory-training school and by a dealer in a nearby town. I was astonished by the short time it took me to become an expert. Actually, much of the credit must go to the Duraclean process, which is so safe it has earned the Parents' Magazine Seal.

"The portable machine you see is just one of the electrical machines I use. It manufactures a light aerated foam with a peculiar action chemists call 'peptizing'. It means that instead of being scrubbed deep into the fabric, dirt is gently ABSORBED by the foam, leaving the fabric clean all the way down. Women can't believe their eyes when they see how it works. Colors appear bright again, and rug pile unmats and rises like new. I don't have to soak rugs or upholstery to get them clean, which ends the problem of shrinkage, and means the furnishings can be used again the very same day. This alone has brought me a lot of customers.

"As a Duraclean dealer I make money with four other services, too: ***Duraproof*** . . which makes furnishings immune to moth and carpet beetle damage (it's backed by a six year warranty). ***Durashield,*** a brand new dirt-delaying treatment. It coats fabrics with an invisible film that keeps dirt out. ***Duraguard,*** another new service, flameproofs draperies, upholstery and carpets to reduce charring and the tendency of fires to flame up. And ***Spotcraft,*** which consists of special chemical products for removing stubborn spots and stains. On jobs where I perform all five services, I multiply profits!

"One of the nicest things about being a Duraclean dealer is that I get continuous help from Duraclean Headquarters. My services are nationally-advertised in famous magazines like McCall's, House Beautiful and many others. I also get a complete advertising kit prepared by experts. (There's even a musical commercial!) I get a monthly magazine full of methods to build business and I can meet with other dealers at Duraclean conventions. I'm also backed by insurance. In fact there are over 25 regular services I get under their unique System.

No Shop Needed

"Maybe you too would like to break away from your job and make a fresh start in a business of your own. Do you need a shop? Certainly not. I operate from home. Need a lot of money to start? Not at all. Duraclean finances reliable men, after a moderate down payment, and furnishes enough supplies to return your TOTAL investment.

"You get everything you need: equipment, supplies, advertising matter, personal training, and regular help from Headquarters. To get all the details, fill out the coupon. There's no obligation and you can *decide for yourself*. I'll say one thing: if you DO become a Duraclean dealer, you'll be glad the rest of your life that you took time today to write."

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Desk 9-172, 839 Waukegan Avenue, Deerfield, Ill.

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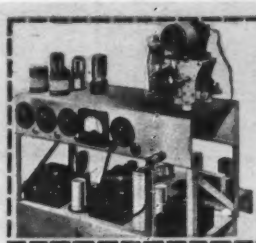

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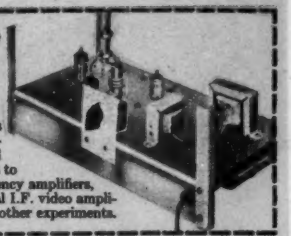

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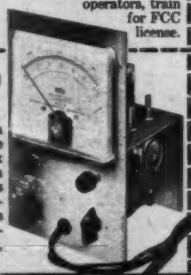

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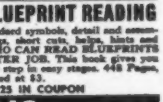

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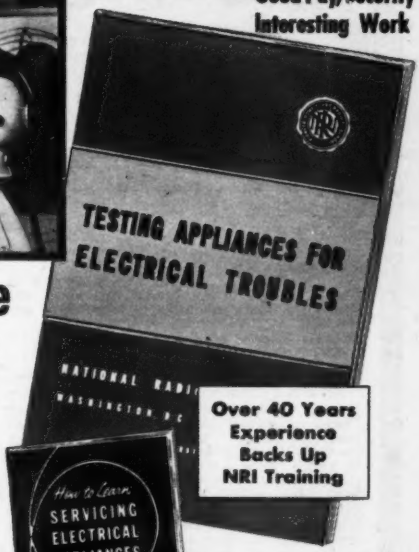

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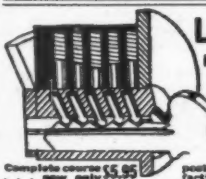

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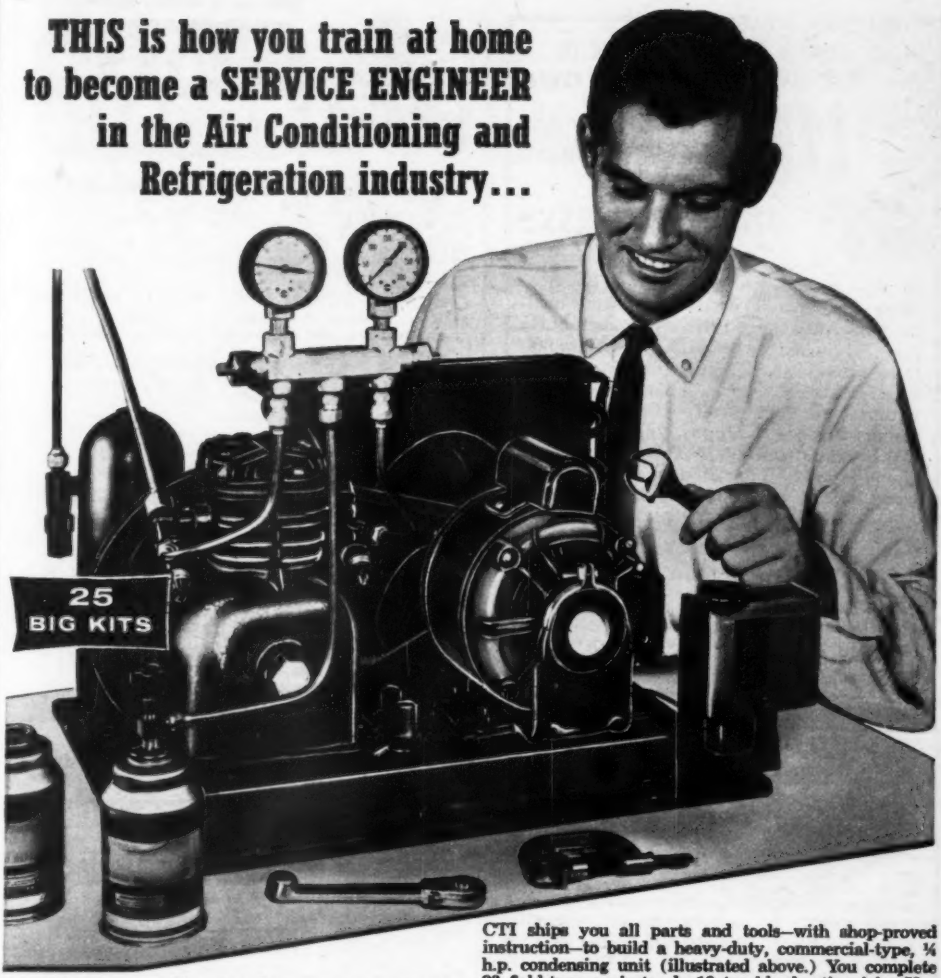

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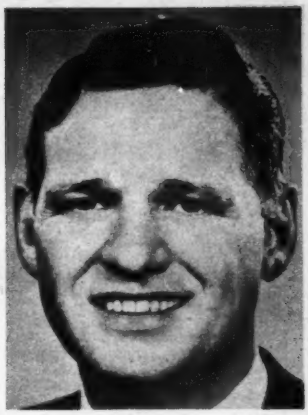

If you will send me your name, I will tell you about an unusual kind of business that you can start right away—in your own home—in your spare time. It is the kind of business in which you will never have to compete with the "Big Fellows". It is a "one man" business that you can operate without outside help. You don't need a bit of experience to start and the investment is so small that almost any man can easily afford it. Complete information will not cost you a penny.

By DON WARNER

At one time or another, almost every man I ever knew has had a hankering to own and operate some kind of a business of his own. But not one in a hundred ever got beyond the "wishing" stage. And nobody can blame them much. Everyone of these men ran up against some pretty tough obstacles. Lack of capital was one, lack of experience was another—fear of tackling the unknown.

So these men went along year after year in the same old rut. Most of them got raises now and then, but usually the pay boost wasn't even enough to keep pace with the rising prices. So after ten years with their noses to the grindstone, they were no better off than when they started.

I only wish I had known, ten years ago, what I know today. I could have helped all these friends of mine. I could have shown them a sure and simple way to make their dreams come true—just as I have done for hundreds of other men in more recent years.

For I have discovered a secret that makes it easy for any man to get out of the doldrums and learn quickly the kind of business that can change the entire course of his life.

This new kind of business is built around a little machine that I invented. It is a small machine—so small that you can set it up on a table top right in your own kitchen. And it is an inexpensive machine. It costs so little that any man who is earning even a modest salary can easily afford it.

Yet with this simple table-top machine you can break into a multi-million dollar business that was once controlled by a few big companies. As a matter of fact, this gigantic business is rapidly being taken over by small home operators—one in each community—throughout the United States.

With this machine — working in spare time in your own home—you can turn out huge quantities of a product that buyers were once forced to order from big cities. Here's how the machine pays off. Material that costs you only 27c turns out a product that sells for $1.80. The machine is so simple and easy to operate that it can start making money for you the first hour. Working full capacity, it can earn for you as much as $9.20 in one hour.

This is not theory. This is no guesswork. These are the facts that you can easily prove to yourself—once you get my free information.

If you are interested in knowing more about this business and how you can get started on it, I shall be happy to give you full particulars free of charge. Let me assure you that you don't need a bit of experience. I give you complete instructions for operating the machine and show you eight different ways to get business coming in fast so you can start making money right from the very beginning.

And always remember this. You can start at home in your own spare time. You don't have to give up your present job. You don't risk a penny of your present income. You can run this business as a spare time operation and make a lot of extra money. Then, as business grows and starts to make more for you than you get out of your present job, you can expand it into a full time business.

Then you'll *really* start to live. I know how it was with me when I branched out for myself. You'll feel free and independent for the first time in your life. You'll never know till you experience this thrill for yourself. Then you'll wonder why you waited so long. You will know the deep-down satisfaction of personal independence. You will be free from the fear of layoffs, loss of jobs.

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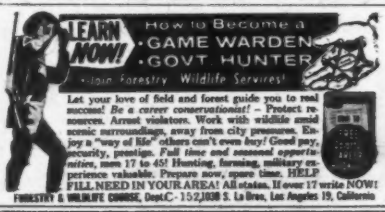

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A patent gives the inventor the exclusive right to prevent others from making, using, or selling the invention claimed in the patent for a period of seventeen years.

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Invention Clinic

Joseph H. Kraus

In this column each month Mr. Kraus will answer as many letters as space permits on those subjects he feels to be of widest general interest. Time does not allow him to reply to any letters except those printed here. Address your questions to the Invention Clinic, *Mechanix Illustrated*, 67 West 44 St., New York 36, N. Y.

Heat Exchanger

H. L. Clark, Jr. of Oak Grove, Ky., outlines a system for obtaining heat from the waters of the Gulf of Mexico to generate steam and produce power. Is this an original idea? Does it have commercial value?

About 1924 the famous scientist Georges Claude set up a pilot plant in which he utilized the difference in temperatures of water taken from the surface and from several hundred feet below to run an engine and generator. The system proved workable but was economically unsound. You have not even developed the details of the proposed operation of your arrangement, nor considered the problems resulting from gassing which plagued Claude. Basically, your system is not original. But it might have commercial value if you could prove it economically feasible. This will be difficult to accomplish.

Hi-Fi Hum Eliminator

Karl Haug of Kalamazoo, Mich., sends a circuit diagram which he feels will eliminate the hum from magnetic phono pick-ups. Will we comment on the workability of the suggestion, the possible value as a marketable product and the patentability?

You are assuming that magnetic pick-ups will always be used and that all hum is created by the effect of a motor on the magnetic pick-up. Hum is also heard in units which do not have magnetic pick-ups, while others with pick-ups are relatively free of hum even when fed from the same power source.

Your system may reduce hum in certain motors but the cost is likely to be greater than motor replacement. We suggest much experimental work before you apply for protection. You have to prove this scientifically, not merely theorize on possibility.

INVENTOR'S TIP OF THE MONTH

The inventor who can develop a practical device for washing the outside panes of windows from inside the house is sure to be successful. He should remember, however, that dozens of U-shaped gadgets have been patented for this purpose and some have appeared on the market. The goal should be to produce a foolproof item which will be easy to manipulate on both the upper and lower parts of the window.

Reed Valves For The Gas Engines

Douglas C. Mercer of Seattle, Wash., sends a design for reed valves for gasoline engines. "This system obviously provides better breathing qualities and . . . lasting valve life." Does this design have any merit?

It is not obvious to me. Early gasoline engines had the equivalent of reed valves. In your proposal you utilize both the poppet and reed combination, thus assuring that some of the scavenged gases will mix with unexploded gases. This is not designed for efficiency. We would recommend that you have a search made to learn how many patents have been obtained in this area.

Window Washing Equipment

Orval Abbot of Murray, Utah, sends a diagram and description of a window washer with a tubular reservoir containing the liquid

[*Continued on page* 24]

INVENTORS

If you believe that you have an invention, you should find out how to protect it. The first step is to have a search made of the prior pertinent U. S. patents. If a report on this search indicates that the invention appears patentable you can apply for a patent, and the specifications and claims should be prepared.

The firm of McMorrow, Berman & Davidson, with offices in Washington, D. C., is qualified to take the necessary steps for you. We can make a preliminary search on your invention, advise you whether we think it can be patented, and prepare your application for patent.

Unless you are fully familiar with the U. S. Patent Laws, we recommend that you engage the services of a Registered Patent Attorney to protect your interests. The patent laws are *your* laws. A patent gives you the right to prevent others from making, using or selling the invention claimed in your patent for a period of 17 years.

Use these patent laws for your protection. Investigate whether your invention can be patented. If you have what you believe to be an invention, we suggest that you have this firm make a search for you.

Send for a copy of our Patent Booklet entitled "How To Protect Your Invention," containing information about patent protection and patent procedure. Along with this we will also send you an "Invention Record" form, for your use in writing down and sketching details of your invention. We will mail them promptly. No obligation. They are yours for the asking.

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Invention Clinic

[*Continued from page 22*]

and a squeegee for drying. He has sent a registered letter to himself. Will this afford him protection, and for how long?

You have no protection. Mailing the registered letter to yourself merely helps you establish a claim of priority, should this be necessary. Such a letter should never be opened except in court. Window washers similar to the one you describe have been on the market for years.

Remote Bingo

E. N. Sagucio, FPO, San Francisco, Calif., has designed an electrically operated Bingo game system which anyone can play from a remote distance, even while in bed. "There is no sound system, amplifier or the like in this system," he states. What is our comment?

You are asking us to perform a mind-reading act and imagine how your system operates. We could develop a dozen ways to do the same thing and also dispense with amplifiers and sound. In fact, some food stores are providing Bingo games by mail. Your system may not be patentable. Much will depend on the circuitry, ease of installation and freedom from tampering or counterfeiting.

Snow Remover Attachment

Daniel J. Klinger and C. R. Stertzer of Columbus, Ohio, send diagrams for a snow-removing attachment to be fitted to power lawn mowers. "We have written to numerous organizations and have not yet received a reply," they say. Should they give it up or try again?

You are trying to sell an idea which may not be original. We have seen similar attachments. They do not do a good job on wet

[*Continued on page 32*]

INVENTORS

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29-M1 Warner Building Washington 4, D. C.

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Upon reading Frederick C. Russell's piece on Emergency Equipment (Oct. MI), I rushed out and bought all those things only to find that I needed a truck instead of a trunk. I was just about to give up driving, since there are times when I am many miles from a gas station and even more a garage, when I had a wonderful idea. I simply bought an Isetta and put it in the luggage compartment. Now, when something happens, I can go for help.

George Cook
Alpine, N. Y.

● *'S All Right*

Before I bought my Buick I called your office to get some unprejudiced facts. A nice girl answered my questions by reading from McCahill's article on the Buick. I was so fascinated I asked her to read more and she ended up reading the whole article. She was sure nice to somebody who doesn't ever read MI. I bought the car.

J. P. R.
Staten Island, N. Y.

The nice girl has been fired. In the future, ask your mother to buy the book and read it to you.

● *Why Go To Paris?*

In your August issue of MI under the It's New! heading you show a ten-minute car wash in Paris using three big brushes. In Kansas City we have one that is exactly the same but does the job in three minutes.

Gary Warinner
Kansas City, Mo.

Everything's up-to-date in Kansas City.

● *Great Idea*

The Don't-Do-It's cartoons are very educational and timely. How about some about the litterbugs and the polluters of air and stream? Remember, one picture is worth 1,000 words.

Joseph F. Jedlinsky
Cleveland, Ohio

Don't-Do-It's try to save readers from themselves, Joe, rather than to awaken their social consciences. But below is a picture of us MI staffers at work with the hotel next door belching its own mixture of burnt egg, soot, and nerve gas. We're sending a copy of this issue to the manager.

● *Trap For Texans*

In the Sept. issue you suggested that a reader try to sell his Caloric Fan to a Texas oil man. I have this genuine Currier and Ives print of Little White Kittens Into Mischief and I am looking for that same Texan.

W. T. H.
Pontiac, Mich.

W. T., you may have exceeded the limit, even for Texans. But lots of luck.

[*Continued on page 28*]

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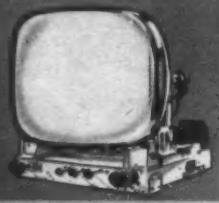

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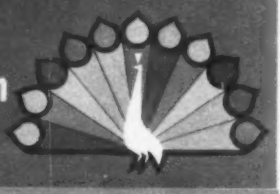

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Dear Editor

[*Continued from page* 26]

● *February MI Mystery*

Anybody can see that the sum below is correct, but to prove it is another matter. Suppose that you do so by replacing each letter by a digit—the same digit for the same letter throughout. Of course, different letters must be replaced by different digits.

```
  O N E
  T W O
  F O U R
 -------
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```

Any one of several solutions would serve to prove the sum, but only one also proves the truism that if your WOES are multiplied (especially five-fold) you are bound to get SORER. (From Mathematical Puzzles For Beginners And Enthusiasts, Geoffrey Mott-Smith, Dover Publications, New York.)

[*Continued on page* 68]

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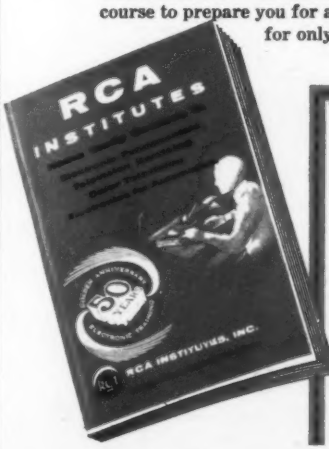

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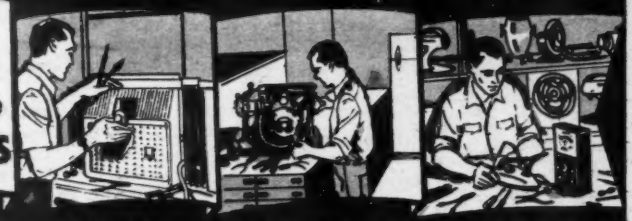

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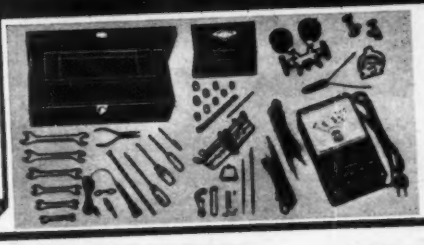

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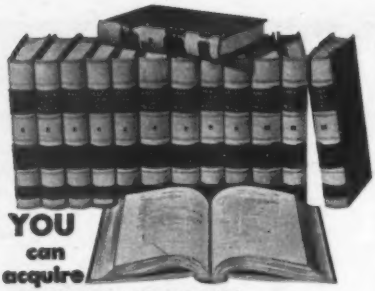

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Invention Clinic

[*Continued from page* 24]

snow. Why not have a search made to determine if you have anything patentable, then build a model and test it this winter.

Finger Guard For Bowlers

Glen Winchell, Jr., of Valley Falls, N. Y., sends diagrams and description of a finger guard for bowlers. What is our advice?

An article like this must be acceptable to bowlers and not lower their average scores. You may find it difficult to get protection because use for an article is not a claim for a patent, and many finger guards have been marketed for other purposes. You seem to show several values in your diagram, but these are not explained. We suggest you ask your attorney to report on a thorough search. Meanwhile have several finger guards made and ask your friends to use them under a test set-up to see what effect they have on scores. The totals might tell an important story.

Inventor—Manufacturer

Don Sizelove of Bloomington, Ill., wants to know if starting a business of bringing the inventor and manufacturer together is worthwhile. What should be considered before going into this field?

You should know how much money you will need to invest over an extended period of time to do the job right. This will require much capital. The organization should reap its operating revenue from a percentage on the sales, from successful research which might come out of its laboratories, and even from "wild cat" ventures submitted by those who have neither the money, know-how or simply lose interest in the business end of invention. •

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THIS CRAZY STUFF

CAN MAKE YOU UP TO $500.00 PROFIT ON $20 WORTH OF MATERIALS

$1.00 BRINGS YOU $25.00

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SENSATIONAL NEW HOME BUSINESS IN "VELVO-FINISH" SURFACING PAYS UP TO $15 & $20 AN HOUR

Are you tired of being told what to do, when to come to work—perhaps when to stay home (without pay!) when work is scarce? Would you like to walk out on all this, and start piling up the big profits for yourself? If you are really in earnest, here is your once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to do it.

START IN SPARE TIME
Enjoy 2 INCOMES AT ONCE!

A corner of garage, basement, or service porch is room enough to start. Do Velvo-Finishing evenings or weekends, and keep present job until you are "set." Profit from this double income in beginning, and bank the extra money — to buy a home, for a secure future, or to open your own full-time business when you are ready.

BECOME EXPERT IN A FEW HOURS!

No previous experience or special skill needed. My complete illustrated instructions make it easy to learn, easy to do. Few hours of practice make you a professional. Some actually complete and deliver their first high-profit jobs within a day or two after materials arrive!

FLOK-KRAFT New 'SPRAY-ON' *Velvo-Finish*
Protects and Beautifies METAL, WOOD, PAPER, GLASS Anything at all!

EARN UP TO $250 A WEEK

Of course, not *every* job pays $10 for 15 to 20 minutes work. And not *every* minute is productive. You must spend *some* time discussing orders with customers, preparing your materials, cleaning your tools. But profits are so *fantastic* that just a *few jobs a week* can bring in $200 or more. I show you *exactly what to do* to get these big-pay orders rolling in!

ORDERS COME FROM HOMES, STORES, FACTORIES, RESTAURANTS, ETC.

Prospects for Velvo-Finish are behind almost *every door*. Illustrations here show only few from *hundreds* of uses. Cover bottoms of lamps, ash trays, pottery, to prevent scratching tables. Beautify old book cases. Put green game-room tops on card tables. Make and sell your own Xmas cards and toys *by mail order* (I show you how). Line trunks, compartments of new and used cars with this velvet-soft finish to protect luggage (*tremendous* market here!). And many more. Instructions include *scores* of money-making ideas like these.

ENJOY REAL PROSPERITY IN GOOD TIMES OR BAD

Velvo-Finish *saves* money by renewing and beautifying *old* articles so *your* trade often *picks up* when other business is in a dump. Do you ever worry about losing your job? Change that with a *year-round* big-profit business of your own! Buy the nice home and fine car of your dreams. Have money and time for *several* vacations a year. Plan a *better* education for your children. Velvo-Finish can do *all* this . . . and *more!* Start by mailing the Coupon *TODAY for big FREE* packet—samples, plans, business plans, full details.

...ALL THESE AND MANY MORE!!

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$10,000 A YEAR!
"Earned $10,000 a year from spare-time start."
G. H., California

$13 AN HOUR!
"Got $52.50 doing auto trunks in 4 hours . . . earned $13 per hour."
J. O., Missouri

TOO MANY ORDERS!
"Getting orders faster than I can handle in spare time."
W. R., Wyoming

$100 JOB 1ST DAY!
"Got $100 job first day . . . promise of several more already."
C. H. E., Maryland

QUICK $140 ORDER!
"Got quick $100 order from store . . . lined up 5 others in 4 hours."
H. G. R., Wisconsin

NO CHARGE FOR FRANCHISES MANY OPENINGS NOW, BUT GOING FAST

Don't delay. Be the *first* in your area to cash-in on this amazing development. Many firms with such a sensational money-making invention would charge *hundreds of dollars* just for the license to use it—but Velvo-Finish Franchises are FREE to those who act at once!

Expect $1000 a Month Profit Permanent—Big Future

Exciting profits today—even *bigger* earnings soon, as your reputation grows in the community. Don't stand idly by and watch someone else get the "gravy." Start NOW . . . TODAY!

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Rush all the FREE materials with complete information. I understand the offer of a Franchise is limited, but that you will hold it open long enough for me to answer, if I decide I want to apply for my area after I see the FREE materials. However, this request does not obligate me in any way, now or ever. What I am asking you to send is absolutely FREE and POSTPAID. (NOTE: DO NOT SEND ANY MONEY)

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Not everyone does as well, but T. N. CODY, who started a business of his own, reports...

For 12 months I've averaged

$800

per month income

—most of it clear profit for me!

Many men have discovered how to be independent, to be free of layoffs and bosses. C. G. Naples grossed more than $200 his first week. A father-son combination grossed $44,000 their second year. H. Lemon says, "*I netted $133 in one 8-hour day.*"

How much you make depends largely on you. You need no special skill, no large investment. Start part time if you wish.

NO SHOP NECESSARY • Our Electric Detergent shampoos rugs, carpets right on floor—removes dirt and grime and helps to show their natural color and beauty. So efficient and safe it is used by largest railroads and hotels.

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THIS MAN . . . . . is taking out of the machine a Plastic Sealing Job — ordered by mail — only 11c in material cost brings back $2.58 in cash by mail. Capacity of machine: **$25.00 profit per hour of operation.**

Get ORDERS and CASH from your mailman—do work in SPARE TIME at home —or expand into FULL TIME business. Send coupon for Free facts about the newest and most fascinating of all home operated businesses. For the first time a simplified machine brings the fabulous profits of **Plastic Sealing** and **Plastic Laminating** within the reach of the small operator. Anyone can learn to operate the machine with a few minutes practice—then with our **Magic Mail Plan** can get mail orders pouring in daily with cash in every envelope. ***No canvassing—no selling.*** We even supply the circulars you mail to bring back cash and orders. Don't waste a minute. Rush your name. We'll send you FREE and postpaid, pictures, prices, details, and all the facts you need to start. Mail coupon or send name on postcard. No charge.

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During the past few years, Auto Claim Adjusting has been having a spectacular growth. Insurance companies everywhere are looking for people who know how to handle this specialized work *—and are prepared to pay a top salary to any man who can fill the bill.* Not only do they pay top salaries; in addition, they offer every opportunity for rapid advancement to executive positions and the high bracket incomes that go with them. And in addition—and because experienced help is so scarce—they offer many fringe benefits practically unheard of in many other kinds of businesses.

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The Terrific Accident Toll Created It!

Why is all this true? You'll find the complete story and the answer in the records compiled by Federal, State and Local authorities. According to these records, more than 25,000,000 auto accidents occurred last year. This means that twenty-five million claims had to be settled—**More Than 69,000 Claims Every Day!**

But before a single adjustment could be made—before a single claim could be settled—*some Claim Adjuster had to investigate the accident!*

Work That MUST Be Done

These investigations cannot be put off. Delays can cost money! Insurance companies cannot afford to let claims drag on—and mount up! They must be settled, because huge reserves of money are tied up by law when claims are unsettled.

It is easy to see why the Claim Investigator plays a leading part in almost every one of the twenty-five million auto accidents that occur each year, and why the demand is so great that there is bound to be a shortage of trained men. There is always a desperate need for trained experts who can take over and make fair and prompt decisions.

But Money Isn't ALL You Get!

The foregoing are *facts*...facts you can easily verify if you care to check with *any* insurance company or *any* law office. And it explains why *even beginners* in the field of Claim Investigating can count on a good starting salary of as high as $400 a month.

But a salary like this is only the beginning. Insurance companies, for example, usually furnish their Claim Investigators a company car and the company pays for the upkeep. Or if he drives his own car the company pays hima mileage allowance to cover operating costs. Nor is that all. Company executives realize the importance of the Claim Investigator's work. Most companies segregate him from the noise of the general office—and install him in a private office of his own—with a private secretary.

HOW YOUR EXPENSES ARE PAID

When a Claim Investigator's work takes him away from his office, the company pays his expenses while he is gone. These expenses may cover travel—meals—living at good hotels, and include incidentals such as cab fares, tips and business entertainment. On top of all these "extras" you usually get a liberal sick leave allowance, hospitalization insurance, life insurance, a pension plan and many other benefits the average working man never dreamed of.

And remember that the Claim Investigator's life is filled with new experiences and new interests. No two cases are alike! Each day presents exciting new problems, and back of it all is the deep, inner satisfaction of having solved them fairly, justly.

You Associate with Important People

In this kind of work you meet interesting people, important people, influential people such as lawyers, police officers, judges. Each one is a new adventure. These are the kind of people worth knowing. They are the kind of people who can help you to get ahead faster and those acquaintances often develop into life-long friendships worth far more than financial gain.

If You Prefer, a Business of Your Own

Even with all these benefits some men prefer to operate their own business. No matter how ideal the job, they want to be "on their own." There are few greater opportunities to do this today than those open to you in the field of Claim Investigating. You can even make your own home your headquarters. You have no office rent to pay—almost no overhead. Your chief expense is the investment of a few dollars for stationery, business cards and office record sheets.

You can even start in your spare time—keeping your regular job until the day arrives when your spare time income is more than the amount of your regular pay. Then you can devote full time to this fascinating work and start to build for a brilliant future—start to win the kind of financial security attained by few men in other fields.

NO EXPERIENCE NEEDED—SOME HIGH SCHOOL EDUCATION IMPORTANT

It's easy to get into Auto Insurance Claim Investigating and Adjusting, once you have learned basic facts. It does not matter in the least what kind of work you may be doing now. Many men in the most humdrum, small pay jobs have thrown off the shackles that bound them to desk or work bench and quickly learned the fundamentals that made it possible for them to step into big pay jobs as Automobile Claim Adjusters. *And all they had to start was a driving desire to get ahead and the determination to see it through!*

SEND TODAY FOR FREE PORTFOLIO

I have prepared a special Portfolio in which I explain carefully to you my "20 Steps to Success as an Automobile Insurance Claim Adjuster." It tells just what to do to get into this fascinating, fast-growing business. There is no charge for this Portfolio—now or any other time. No salesman will call and you will not be under the slightest obligation by sending for it. Mail the handy coupon below to Eric P. McNair, President, Liberty School of Claim Investigating, Dept. 102, Libertyville, Illinois.

MR. ERIC P. McNAIR, President, Dept. 102
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LIBERTYVILLE, ILLINOIS

Please rush me your Portfolio on the "20 Steps to Success" that clearly explains how I can quickly qualify as an Automobile Insurance Claim Adjuster. It is clearly understood that no salesman will call on me, and that everything you send me now is absolutely FREE, and places me under no obligation whatsoever.

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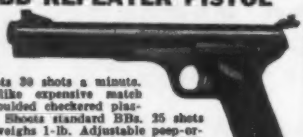

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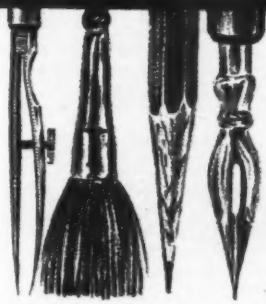

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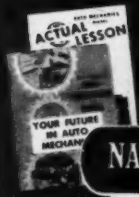

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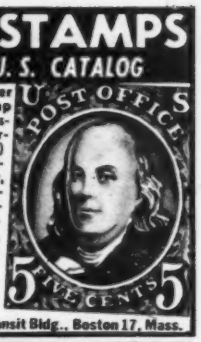

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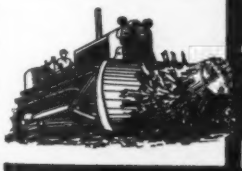

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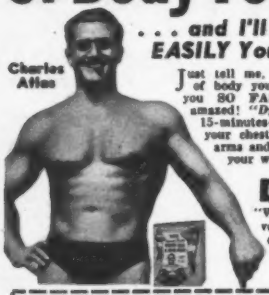

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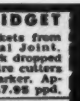

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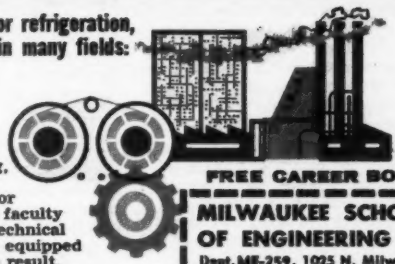

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EVERY MAN a prospect. Request free sales kit showing line of belt buckles. Individualized with customer's name and emblems, also cap badges for trucking, bus, taxi, police, firemen. Choice 3000 emblems. Hook-Fast, Box 1425MI, Providence, R. I.

BUY WHOLESALE—25,000 Items—Catalog 25¢. Matthews, 1480-D5 Broadway, New York City 36.

PRINTING, ADVERTISING Salesman—Excellent moneymaking sideline selling Decalcomania Name Plates, small quantities. Automobile Initials. Sign Letters. Free Samples, "Ralco," XL, Boston 19, Mass.

YOUR OWN business—Suits $1.50; Overcoats 65c; Mackinaws 35c; Shoes 12½c; Ladies' Coats 30c; Dresses 15c. Enormous profits. Catalog Free. Nathan Portnoy Assoc., 2109-M Roosevelt Road, Chicago 8, Ill.

GOLD OR Silver Letters, Numbers. Windows, Doors, Trucks. 1" to 6". 500% Profits—Free Samples. Atlas-R, 544 West 79th, Chicago 20.

BUY WHOLESALE: 100,000 Nationally Advertised Products. Appliances, Cameras, Sporting Goods, Housewares, Watches, Typewriters, Tools, Clothing, etc. Discounts to 80%. Buy-Rite, Box 258, Hawthorne 122, New Jersey.

MAKE $50—$300 quickly, easily, showing outstanding All Occasion, Easter, Valentine Cards, Costume Jewelry, Gifts, Imprinted Stationery, Household Items. Costs nothing to try. Bonus to 7%. Special Plan for Churches, Organizations. Write for Best-Sellers on approval, Free Surprise Gift offer, Money-Making Details. Hedenkamp, 361 Broadway, Dept. MI-49, New York.

NO TRICKS—No Gimmicks. Substantial quality home appliance sells on 9 out of 10 demonstrations. Risk no money. Free big profit details. Write Patented Products Corp., Dept. A-2, Danville, Ohio.

EASY HANDWORK makes fast-selling useful articles. Sample free. Sunmade Company, Brockton 64, Mass.

SELL CHAMPION, AC, Autolite Spark Plugs. Reconditioned, electro-plated, guaranteed 10,000 miles. 100% profit. Free sample. City Motors, 2913-M Fannin, Houston 2, Texas.

$1,000.00 A MONTH for making dramatic 3-second demonstration of amazing lightweight Presto Fire Extinguisher. New chemical used by Airforce snuffs out fires instantly. Only $4.95. Terrific commissions. Millions want it. Free Kit. Merlite, 114 E. 32nd, Dept. P-66U, New York 16.

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EARN $12,000 YEARLY—only two sales daily. World's Best Seller, The Holy Bible (Illustrated) Protestant or Catholic. Margareta's, P. O. Box 92, Hazleton 11, Penna.

RUN A spare-time Greeting Card and Gift Shop at home. Show friends samples of our wonderful new 1959 All-Occasion Greeting Cards and Gifts. Take their orders and earn up to 100% profit. No experience necessary. Costs nothing to try. Write today for samples on approval. Regal Greetings, Dept. 21, Ferndale, Mich.

MAGAZINE SUBSCRIPTIONS — Highest Commissions-Bonus. Qualified Agency, 451TD Kingston, Brooklyn 25, N. Y.

GUARANTEED HOMEWORK! Immediate Commissions! Free Outfits! Hirsch, 1301-10 Hoe, New York City 59.

CLEANS WINDOWS without mess. Strange "dry" cleaning-cloth. Replaces liquids. Windows gleam. Samples sent on trial. Kristee 59, Akron, Ohio.

NEW CAR Thief Signal. Lightning Seller. Samples sent on trial. Northwest Electric 112, Mitchell, S. Dak.

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GET NEW Shirt Outfit Free: make $90.00 weekly on 5 average orders a day. Famous quality Made-To-Measure dress and sport shirts at $3.95 up sell fast to all men. No experience needed. Full or part time. Write: Packard Shirt Co., Dept. 830, Terre Haute, Ind.

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MAKE EXTRA Money. Cash commissions. Everybody buys easy-to-sell Advertising Book Matches. Union label. Big variety—Glamour Girls, Scenics, Hillbillies. Powerhouse selling kit Free. Steady repeat business. No experience necessary. Superior Match Co., Dept. F-259, 7528 S. Greenwood, Chicago 19.

MI Classified Advertisements

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COLORGLAZED CONCRETE pottery made without molds. Patented method. Cemetery products, novelties, tiles. Basement leaksealing. Money-making projects. Booklets, details free. Men only. National Pottery, Grand Rapids, Minnesota.

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MOTEL-RESORT MANAGEMENT. Qualify for hundreds of fascinating, leisurely, well-paid executive openings. Learn at home. Free Booklet. Motel Managers Training School, MI-29, 612 S. Serrano, Los Angeles 5.

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SHINE CARS Without "Polish." New invention. Lightning seller. Cars gleam like mirror. Samples sent on trial. Kristee 106, Akron, Ohio.

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REPAIR $35.00 BATTERY for $1.50. Start your own depression proof business. Earnings unlimited. Full instructions, $2.25 Airmailed. L&M Specialties, Box 10818, Caparra Heights, Puerto Rico.

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MAKE DURABLE building plastic easily. Beautiful—101 uses—800% profit. Bays Laboratory, Keams Canyon, Ariz.

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GROW MUSHROOMS. We buy mushrooms and pay high prices. Use cellar, shed and outdoors. Spare, full time, year round. We sell 100% pure Cultured Mushroom Spawn. Free Book. Mushrooms, Dept. 183, 2954 Admiral Way, Seattle, Wash.

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AMAZINGLY PROFITABLE! "Bronzing" Baby Shoes. Mountings. Forester, 1520 Ardmore, Chicago 26.

UP TO $1500.00 month for life. Free details. Linco, 5117 East 22, Tulsa 14, Okla.

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PIANO TUNING learned at home quickly. Tremendous field! Musical knowledge unnecessary. Be independent! Information free. Empire School of Piano Tuning, Champaign, Ill. (Founded 1935).

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$4,000 FOR MISTER! Mrs.: $3.500! Free "Secret Journal" Plan. Magical! Work home. Publico-JJ2, Oceanside, Calif.

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$3.00 HOUR POSSIBLE assembling pump lamps. Simple, easy. No house canvassing. Write: Ougor Enterprises, MI-3 Caldwell, Ark.

MAKE MONEY clipping newspaper items for publishers! Newscraft, MI-983-E. Main, Columbus 5, Ohio.

HUGE PROFITS manufacture concrete fence posts. Send $2.00 for plans, instructions. Cretepost, Box 38, Windsor, N. Y.

$30-$60 WEEKLY ADDRESSING envelopes. Instructions $1, refundable. Reiss, 210 Fifth Ave., Suite 1102-B, New York 10.

FREE FOLIO "$5,000-$45,000; Unlimited Vacations." No merchandise. Unknown! Work home! Haylings-M7, Carlsbad, Calif.

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MAKE $25-$50 WEEK, clipping newspaper items for publishers. Some clippings worth $5.00 each. Particulars free. National, 81-X, Knickerbocker Station, New York.

$15.00 THOUSAND! ADDRESSING envelopes for advertisers! (We make no false claims.) Details 25¢. Barrie, Box 1247N, Jamaica 21, N. Y.

PRIZE CONTESTS provide Fabulous Home Income Opportunity! Latest Books! How and Where to Win Your Share! Send Stamp! National Contest Bulletin, Box 2685-R, Miami 16, Fla.

MAKE MONEY at home. Excellent Opportunity!! Men or women, write: Merrill Histand, Box 182-EX, Hatfield, Penna.

MAIL TRADE magazine has moneymaking opportunities galore. Sample 25¢. Donovan, 79-M Greenbelt, Levittown, N. Y.

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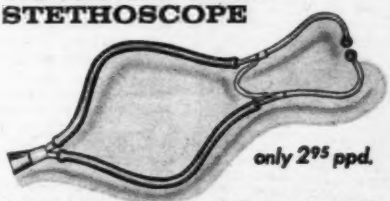

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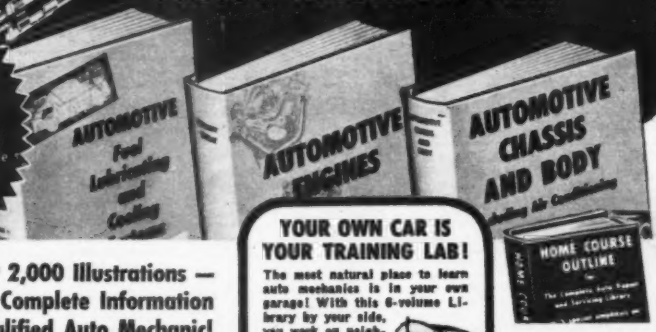

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Mail for McCahill

Uncle Tom is sorry he can't answer all his mail personally. In this column he'll answer the most interesting letters. Write to him at MECHANIX ILLUSTRATED, 67 West 44th St., New York 36, N. Y.

● *Next month my father plans to buy a used car and does not expect to pay more than $500 for it. He plans to put at least 800,000 miles on it. What would you suggest?*

A.K.
Orange, N. J.

A guy with that much optimism doesn't need any suggestions.

● *It's getting so that a man's not safe anywhere any more. I turn on the TV and what do I see? A commercial by a big, bald gorilla. Then to escape I turn to Yachting magazine, where I'm sure I'll find a snug harbor. But no, there you are again! What really threw me though was a credit line "Photos by Tom McCahill." I want you to tell me how you took that photo of yourself batting along in that 30-ft. "home" of yours, The Rooster.*

Jack Isom
Houston, Texas

Long gorilla-like arms.

● *My wife may think you're handsome but, as a farmer, I think you're a menace! They plastered a picture of you on the billboard which faces my main pasture and ever since then my cows have given nothing but sour milk. What do you propose to do about this?*

H.T.B.
Joliet, Ill.

Am sending you a list of yogurt bottlers in your area.

● *My husband and I are proud owners of a 1958 Super '88' Oldsmobile which we bought after I read your article in the July '58 MI. The car has leather upholstery and there are a few soiled areas on the doors. We don't know what preparation to use to clean them. The salesman who sold us the car suggested soap and water! Since I would never wash leather book covers with that, I'd hardly think it would be good for leather upholstery. Can you suggest a type of cleaner and where would it be sold?*

Mrs. W. Russell
Merrick, L. I., N. Y.

Any good saddle soap (which you apply with water) is your best bet for cleaning leather upholstery. You might try Triple-Action Viscol, which I personally use for keeping my leather upholstery in top shape. For real stains, however, saddle soap is the safest. Also, it will preserve the leather. All good leather stores handle saddle soap.

● *A few weeks ago I was stuck in traffic at the Holland Tunnel for more than an hour and a half on my way home. I live in Elizabeth, N. J., and work in New York City. That night I made up my mind that the auto manufacturers have finally defeated themselves—they've built too many cars. I sold my car the next day and we are moving to New York. I hope I never own another car again; a man's a fool to own one these days. Thought you might like to know.*

E.B., Jr.
Elizabeth, N. J.

Glad to hear it, E.B. Now if we can just get 40,000,000 others to follow your sterling example, perhaps driving can once again be fun for us riding idiots.

● *Recently, while returning home from a vacation in Maine, I got on one of the famous New England Turnpikes and found most of the gasolines sold were off-beat brands (not actually off-beat but not major eastern companies) and my three gasoline credit cards were of no use. I was running low on gas and was also very low in the cash department, so I had to leave the pike in order to gas up, which took me many miles out of my way. Why don't the commissioners of these various turnpikes demand that in order to get a gas-selling franchise the oil company running the station must agree to honor all major gas company credit cards? I think in*

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some places they do. I'd like very much to know what you think of this situation.

J.H. King
Baltimore, Md.

Couldn't agree with you more. In many stations throughout the country all credit cards *are* honored. But you're a captive audience once on the pike and you have to take what they dish out—or nothing. That seems to be the typical attitude. There is a rumor that many turnpikes are losing money. All I can add to that is—many of them deserve to.

● *I am 28, considered quite attractive, and work six nights a week in New York City. I drive to and from work since the train schedule at the hours I come home is ridiculous. With all the muggings and such going on, I sometimes get pretty nervous. Several times cars have drawn alongside mine and remarks have been made. As usual, there's never been a police officer around. If I were your sister, what precautions would you advise?*

Helen P.
White Plains, N. Y.

The same thing I advised my own sister: "Get a crew haircut and grow a beard." If this doesn't appeal to you, get yourself a big dog (the best protection in the world) and keep all your windows up and the doors locked from the inside.

● *Would you please settle a disagreement between my father and me? My father says that when you floor a car's accelerator it ruins the timing of the engine and the transmission. I disagree with him. Who is correct?*

Patrick Carone
Rockville Centre, N. Y.

There's a program on TV called Father Knows Best but your old man is the exception to this. However, we must concede that continued jump starts are not the very best thing for the transmission, rear axle or even engine mounts. But how he could conclude it affects the timing is a mystery equal to "What ever happened to Judge Crater?"

● *Back in January 1946 I picked up MI from the PX and read your article where you tested one of the new '46 models. I have not missed an issue since. Dad, you hit the nail right on the head with your last article! It was by far your best. (McCahill Sounds Off On The Auto Slump, Aug. '58 MI.) I don't always agree with Walter Reuther but if he gets on the bandwagon to halt importing foreign cars until these foreign countries start*

[Continued on page 62]

With Champion spark plugs, fire engines roll instantly!
Above: Garden City Park (L. I.) fire department.

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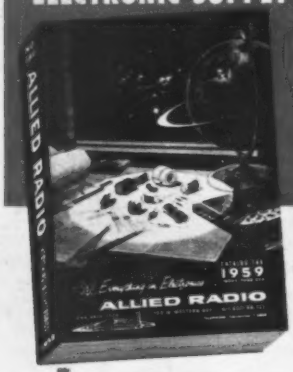

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Mail For McCahill

[Continued from page 60]

importing our new and used cars, then I'll be one of his supporters. I hope some of the knuckleheads in Washington read your article and let some of it soak in.

C. Neptun
Peoria, Ill.

Some of the knuckleheads did. Now they're trying to get Khrushchev to reserve a room for me in Siberia.

● *Your article McCahill Sounds Off should be given much wider publicity but before that happens let's check one point: You include Canada in the list to buy second-hand junk. Isn't it bad enough buying it new?*

R. Horsnell
Strathmore, Quebec

Touché.

● *Last week, while nosing around a local car boneyard for parts, the owner told me he had recently sold a "1917 Chevrolet with the original V8 motor." Not being expert enough to argue, I shut up but I determined to ask you about it. Did Chevrolet ever produce a V8 car before 1920?*

Stretch Meredith
Winnipeg, Manitoba

They sure did and it was a real dog. Ed Cole (Chevy's prexy) and his boys prefer not to remember it.

● *My problem is this: I had a complete motor job ($315) done to my car by the people from whom I bought it four years ago. This motor job included new parts inside such as fuel pump, inserts, etc., but they told me my oil pump was good. Now, after 2,000 miles since the motor job, my oil light still comes on if I slow down to below 20 mph. I've taken the car back repeatedly but they claim nothing seems wrong. I've also been told that a brand-new oil pump was tried and still the red light showed. Over 20 mph the light goes out. The shop manager says he's tried everything he knows to eliminate the trouble and now he gives up. Oh yes, the manager claims to have put an oil gauge reader on to check if I had oil pressure and he assured me that everything is OK. My pressure plug on the block has been changed three times and no change has occurred. Any suggestions?*

Pray Caya
Plainville, Conn.

Many years ago I solved a similar problem for a customer in my shop by carefully pinching the oil line in the right spot with a big pair of pliers. This gave him a tremendous

[Continued on page 64]

Ever wanted to design your own car? Chevrolet lets you come awfully close—with a choice of nine engines, five transmissions, two suspension systems, regular or Positraction rear axles, special cams, solid or hydraulic valve lifters, two air conditioning systems, even Fuel Injection. You name it, chances are Chevy has it. Here's an example of what we mean:

"I 'built' my Chevy to handle like a sports car . . . for five!"

"Take a young architect (that's me) with a Corvette appetite, a one car budget and a family of wife, three kids and a puppy, and you've got *frustration*.

"That is, you did—until Chevy came out with that terrific four-speed floor-shift gearbox.* The minute I heard that, I knew Chevy had given me the makings of a *family* sports car that would be the greatest!

"Here's how I 'designed' the sweetest handling five-seater that ever came down the pike: First, an Impala two-door sport coupe. Then the 290-h.p. Fuel Injection V8* and, buttoned on right behind it, that *great* four-speed box. (That's the Corvette transmission, you know, with synchro on all *four* gears and that solid, direct floor shift.) The driveline ends up with Chevy's limited-slip Positraction* rear axle to give me real glued-to-the-road traction on gravel, mud or whatever.

"Seat belts, of course, and those optional nylon tires. But I wouldn't add a thing to the genuine road car feeling of Chevy's Full Coil suspension and Ball-Race steering. I've let a lot of my sports car friends drive the Impala and you ought to see the look on their faces after a couple of blocks. Man, I never thought a sedan could feel like *this!*"

It's a fact; here's a car you really can tailor to your measure. Why don't you sit down now and make an outline of what your "ideal" car would be like—we'll bet there's a Chevy that fits the specifications like a glove! . . . Chevrolet Division of General Motors, Detroit 2, Michigan.

CHEVROLET

**Optional at extra cost.*

Mail For McCahill

[*Continued from page* 62]

pressure reading (which is what he wanted) and made both of us very happy.

● *How do you explain the shape of your head?*

J.P.R.
Kissimmee, Fla.

Mother was thinking of a persimmon.

● *Here is a situation that I wish you'd clear up for me. The other day the base paper came out with a picture of a car with the rear window broken into a zillion pieces. The article stated that this was caused because the owner closed his car too tight and on a hot day the pressure inside the car increased to the extent that it broke said window. I don't think there's a car made with a body tight enough to maintain the pressure required to break a window. What is your opinion?*

S/Sgt. Walter J. Delle, Jr.
Patrick AFB, Fla.

I agree with you but—with all the windows closed under a broiling hot sun, enough heat could generate inside so that, when added to the outside heat, it could cause extreme expansion of not only the steel body and window frame but the glass itself. This is often enough to shatter a window. Also, leaving all the windows rolled up under a hot sun will cause a lot more damage than quite a bit of rain with the windows cracked an inch or two. Headlining can pull loose, door upholstery fittings can pop and even the instruments can lose all their delicate light lubrication. Under the right set of circumstances, the temperature inside a car body with all the windows closed can come pretty close to oven heat.

● *In reading the Jan. '47 issue of MI I came upon an article in which you evaluate the foreign cars by U. S. standards. As this was over ten years ago, and both the foreign and domestic products have changed considerably, do you have a new opinion on this ever-controversial subject?*

L. C. Clement
Alexandria, La.

When the article written by me was published in '47, there wasn't a single car made in America that had suspension worthy of the

[*Continued on page* 66]

Hair problem got you in the doghouse?

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Just a little bit of Wildroot and... WOW!

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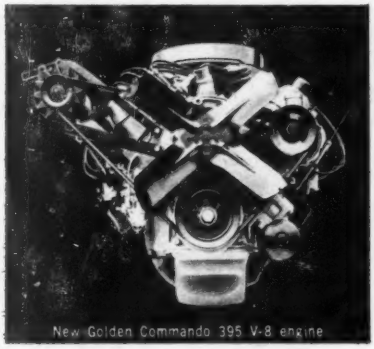
Meet the New Golden Commando 395—bigger and quicker than its 1958 counterpart—yet lower in price! You can get this giant 361-cubic-inch engine with stick shift or new water-cooled TorqueFlite Drive.

Best news about the New Golden Commando 395 is, of course, that lower price. But there's plenty more to gladden your heart, too. For one thing, this special V-8 is now available even in the lowest priced Savoy Sedans and in popular Plymouth wagons, too. For another, there's the astonishing new smoothness and cat-quickness of this engine. For still another thing, it's got the highest torque per cubic inch of any engine built by Chrysler — 395 ft. lbs. at 3000 RPM!


New Golden Commando 395 V-8 engine

Bore of the New Golden Commando 395 is 4.12 inches; stroke 3.38 inches; compression ratio 10 to 1. Maximum horsepower is 305 at 4600 RPM. There's a special high-performance camshaft, 4-barrel carburetor, low-restriction dual exhaust system, positive pressure lubrication system and all the other features you expect in a specially-engineered power plant from Chrysler Corporation. See your Plymouth dealer and test-drive the New Golden Commando 395 in one of his sleek, sure-footed new Plymouth models soon!

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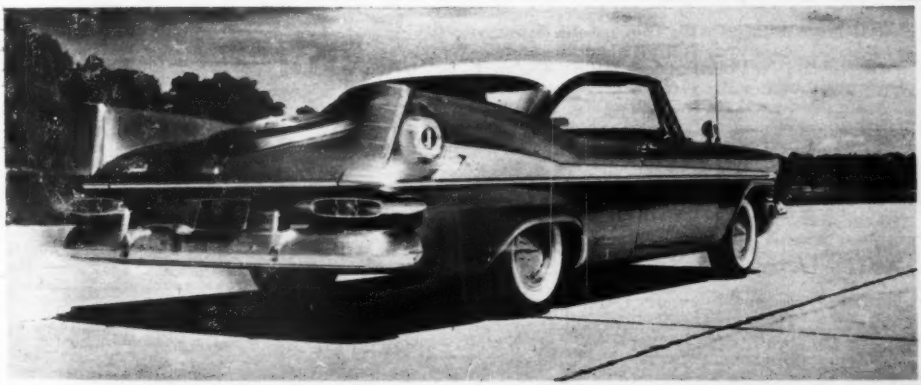

[*Continued from page* 64]

name or brakes capable of stopping at high speed. All good top-grade foreign sedans were superior to our products then but the picture changed considerably in the next few years. By 1957, some of our sedans were the best road-family cars in the world. Some of them were superior to anything being made in Europe from an engineering standpoint.

After having tested a number of the '59 models, it's evident that we've slipped back quite a few notches. Only one camp is still making cars that are superior to most of the European offerings in roadability and safety. As it stands today, the top-grade European imports are far ahead of us in quality but we have most of them backed against the wall in engineering.

However, our cars generally are not as good as they were two years ago. For a definite example of how the foreign vs. domestic hassle stacks up, take the Imperial. From the standpoint of ease-of-handling, roadworthiness and roadability, plus performance and safety, it is superior to the Rolls, Bentley or Mercedes 300. However, it's no match for any of these in quality or workmanship.

● *Do you consider yourself the best automobile tester in the US?*

George Edge
Kansas City, Mo.

If you think modesty is going to force me to say "No"—you're nuts!

● *Was surprised to read in the October MI that you fish with Lew and Del Parkinson at their Sailfish Center. I've fished with Lew for several years, too. He's the best in the business. However, you gave the wrong address. In case some of your readers want to contact him, the address is: Capt. Lew Parkinson, Sailfish Center, Palm Beach Shores, Riviera Beach, Fla.*

Ed. Hickey
Wilmington, Del.

Thanks, Ed. Palm Beach Shores being only a mashie shot across the inlet from Palm Beach, I wrote the latter without thinking. I also realize you're right—some local stuffy postal employee might not bother forwarding any mail as it is a different town.

—Tom McCahill

Draw Lincoln

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Please enter my attached drawing in your contest. (PLEASE PRINT)

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DRAW LINCOLN'S HEAD

5 inches high. Use pencil. Drawings for March 1959 contest must be received by March 31. None returned. Winner notified. Amateurs only. Our students not eligible.

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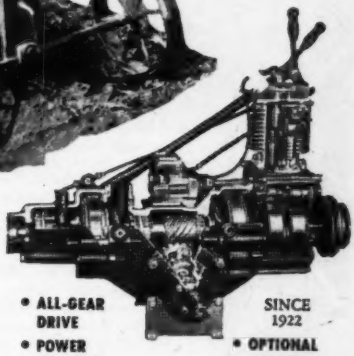

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Made by B & L and E.K.—24" F.L. f/6, in 23" long Lens Cone. Use as long range, Big Bertha Telephoto lens—for Richest field (wide field, low power) telescope, etc. Lenses are 4" dia.—precision 4-element type, Aero Tessar and Aero Ektar. Easily removed. Diaphragm (f/6 to f/22) is included. Opens approx. 1" to 3½". Lens and cone—wt. 25 lbs. Sturdy carrying trunk—wt. 26 lbs.

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Consists of plate glass mirror blank; tool; 2 finely ground and polished lenses to make ⅛" F.L. eyepiece; first surface diagonal mirror; magnifying lens; 8 abrasives; pitch.
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Dear Editor

[*Continued from page* 28]

• *December Mystery Solved*

Four men, one of whom was known to have committed a certain crime, made the following statements when questioned by the police.

Archie: Dave did it.
Dave: Tony did it.
Gus: I didn't do it.
Tony: Dave lied when he said I did it.

If only one of these four statements is true, who was the guilty man? If only one of these four statements is false, who was the guilty man? Answer: a—Gus; b—Dave.

• *Message From 124C 41*

May I call your attention to the fact that the feature article, Learn While You Sleep, on page 61 of your November issue, did not give credit to me as the originator of the method, as you will see from the attached brochure. In fact, not only did I originate the method, but the term "learn-while-you-sleep" was coined by me, too. This method was first described in my former magazine Modern Electrics in 1911.

Hugo Gernsback
New York, N. Y.

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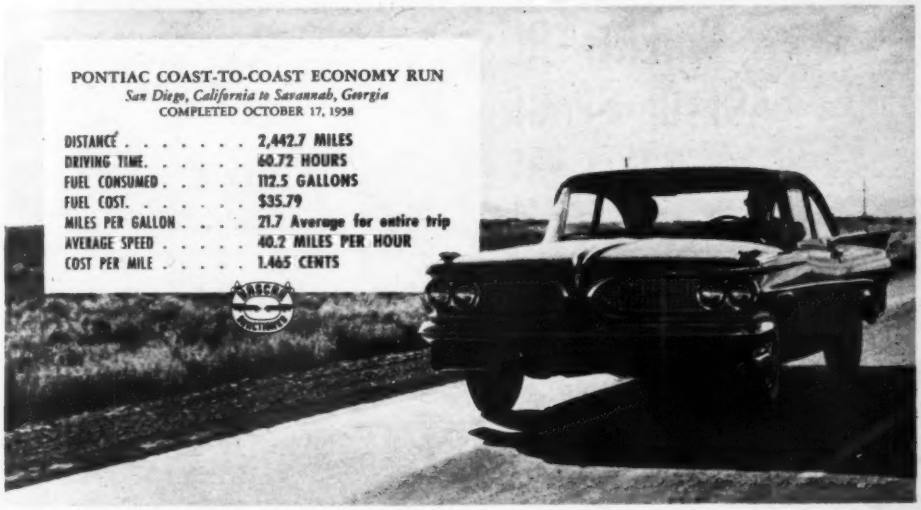
COAST TO COAST ONLY 1½ CENTS PER MILE FOR GAS!

Pontiac's new Tempest 420E V-8 sets the year's most important economy mark—Here's the story and what it means to you!



We asked one of America's most respected car testers—"Uncle Tom" McCahill—to put a standard Pontiac Catalina Sedan with our new economy V-8 to the test.

And with only one specification—that the run would be exactly like *you* would drive coast to coast yourself—in mountains, in city traffic, across deserts, buying gas wherever the tank ran low.

And here's the phenomenal story in every complete detail—all officially certified by NASCAR, America's top automobile competition authority.

What does it mean to you?

Simply—and very importantly—this: For the first time, you can get deep-chested V-8 pep with better mileage than from many smaller so-called "economy cars" . . . and get it on regular fuel!

If you owned a Pontiac with this new Tempest 420E V-8 you'd be saving up to 5 cents a gallon on regular fuel. This remarkable new economy V-8 is optional at no extra cost on any Pontiac!

See your Pontiac dealer soon—and discover the newest in V-8 performance and economy!

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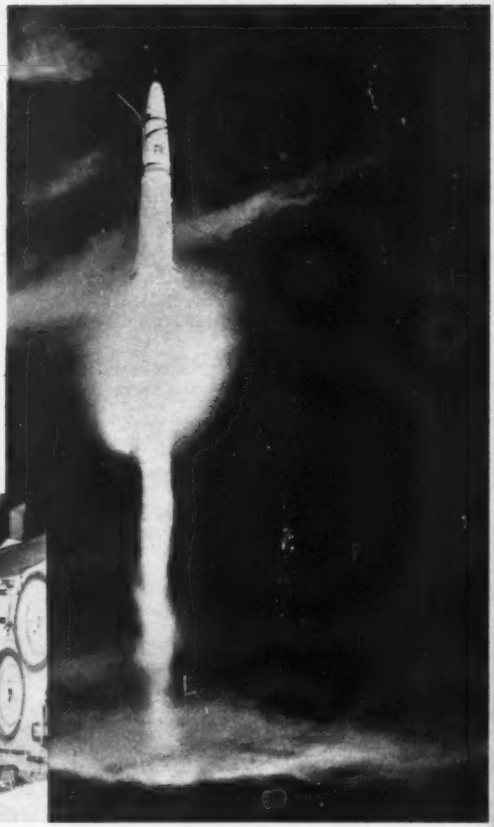
FORMER SERVICEMEN: MAKE YOUR SKILLS PAY OFF WHERE THE AGE OF SPACE IS REAL



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